



SHOCK RISE IN JOBLESS TOTAL

BY SIMON PENFOLD

THERE has been a surge in the number of people claiming out-of-work benefits in Staffordshire in recent weeks, new figures reveal.

After months of record lows for the so-called claimant count across the county last year, the figure has been rising steadily since November.

In March, the number of claimants rose by 295 to 6,795, according to the latest numbers from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). It was also up in Cannock Chase, Lichfield and South Staffordshire.

Part of this has been blamed on the increasing roll-out of the new Universal Credit benefit, as the claimant figure is based on those receiving Jobseeker's Allowance and the unemployment element of Universal Credit.

In Cannock Chase, the claimant count rose by 45 to 915 while in South Staffordshire it was up by 15 to 880. In Lichfield, the figure was up by 105 to 670 but Stafford bucked the trend with a fall of 40 to 800.

Reverses

At the same time, the ONS has released unemployment figures for the three months to February that show a dramatic fall in the number of people out of work across the region, which includes Staffordshire.

In the West Midlands, the jobless rate fell from 5.5 per cent to five per cent over the three months, as the number out of work fell by 12,000 to 143,000. It reverses a recent trend of rising unemployment statistics in the region.

The two sets of figures differ because not everyone classed as unemployed is eligible to claim benefits.

Meanwhile, over the quarter to February, the number of people in work in the West Midlands leapt by 34,000 to 2.72 million.

That was in line with nationwide figures that have seen the number in work across the UK hit a record high, rising 55,000 in the three months to February to 32.2 million – the highest figure since records began in 1971.

UK unemployment fell by 16,000 to 1.42 million – the lowest in more than a decade – giving a jobless rate of 4.2 per cent, which is the lowest since 1975, according to the ONS.

Matt Hughes, senior ONS statistician, said: "The labour market continues to be strong and, for the first time in almost a year, earnings have grown slightly after inflation has been taken into account."

CHURCH WINDOW TRIBUTE TO WAR HERO'S BRAVERY



Relative Nick Loxton at the service to celebrate the installation of a window featuring Cannock First World War hero Dudley Loxton

A SPECIALLY-MADE window paying tribute to a fallen war hero has been reinstalled in a Cannock church – after spending more than 60 years in storage.

After the First World War a memorial window to Private Ernest Adshead Dudley Loxton, of the 1st Australian Imperial Force, was commissioned by his aunt, Annie.

Although Dudley served in the Australian Army, having emigrated to the country aged 22, his aunt wanted the window to be installed at St Luke's Church because she considered it to be the family's hometown and

the church their place of worship. Dudley was born in Middlesex in 1889 but at five-years-old he was adopted by his aunt in Cannock.

When the conflict broke out in 1914 he joined the Australian Imperial Force, having previously worked as a station hand on a farm station in Harlin, Queensland.

During the war he took part in the Gallipoli campaign before being sent to fight in Belgium and France.

Dudley was killed in April 1918 during fierce fighting at Meteren, a French village near the Belgian border. He is buried in Caes-

tre Military Cemetery in France. The window was installed at the church in 1921 before being taken down in 1949 when a new chapel was added. It was left in unprotected storage for more than 60 years.

The church marked the installation with a ceremony on Saturday, with guests including members of the Loxton family, Lt Col Fairfax from the Australian Defence Staff and the Bishop of Lichfield.

More than 30 people attended the event, including around 10 members of the Loxton family who still live locally.

PLANNING

Proposals for 52 homes unveiled

PLANS for 52 homes in Hednesford have been submitted to the district council.

The proposed development at the junction of Pye Green Road and Limepit Lane will include a mix of two and three-bedroom homes.

It will also include 23 affordable homes and 104 parking spaces.

Buildings are set to be demolished to make way for the proposed housing development, including Common Farm Cannock Cattery.

Cannock Chase Council has yet to discuss the proposal.

LEISURE

Town to join in arts festival fun

CANNOCK is one of 12 towns in the Midlands taking part in an arts festival this weekend.

Cannock Library will host Shakespearean-themed performances by young people from local schools.

The event on Saturday from 10am to 5pm is part of the Emerge Festival.

A bus will provide free transport between the library and the Museum of Cannock Chase throughout the day.

FOOTBALL

Wolves 'can expect a £140m windfall'

WOLVES' return to the Premier League will be worth £140 million to the club, with the whole region benefitting, experts say.

The promotion will have a knock-on effect for bars, shops, restaurants and hotels, giving the region its 'confidence and swagger back', it is claimed. Football finance expert Dr Rob Wilson said promotion means an initial £120m financial boost from television money and sponsorship.

INSIDE

THE MOVERS AND SHAKERS



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Petition plea over Windrush amnesty



Rt Rev Dr Michael Ipgrave

THE Bishop of Lichfield is urging people to sign a petition calling for an immigration amnesty for those who arrived in Britain decades ago as part of the 'Windrush Generation'.

Settlers from Caribbean Commonwealth nations were invited to live and work in the UK as British subjects following the Second World War to help address labour shortages.

But an anomaly in the law means that many children who arrived under Windrush in the 1950s and 1960s were never formally naturalised. The Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Rev Dr Michael Ip-

grave, has signed a petition calling for an amnesty for those who arrived as minors under Windrush before 1971.

He has been joined in signing it by the Bishop of Shrewsbury, the Rt Rev Mark Rylands; the Bishop of Wolverhampton, the Rt Rev Clive Gregory; the Bishop of Stafford, the Rt Rev Geoff Annas; and the Rev Rachel Parkinson, chair of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church.

On Monday, Home Secretary Amber Rudd apologised for her government's 'appalling' actions towards Windrush-era citizens and announced a new

Home Office team to deal with their issues. However, Wolverhampton North East Labour MP Emma Reynolds said the apology is 'too little too late'.

Bishop Michael said: "It saddens me greatly that people who have lived here their whole adult lives now face uncertainty and fear. These are individuals in their 50s and 60s who have contributed to society and may have never known a home outside of the UK."

The online petition - at petition.parliament.uk/petitions/216539 - had been signed by more than 160,000 people when the Chronicle went to press.

17 officers at county council on £100k-plus

STAFFORDSHIRE County Council paid more officials £100,000 or over than any other authority in the West Midlands, a new town hall rich list has revealed.

Seventeen officers were paid more than £100,000 last year.

The authority's top earners took home combined salaries of £2.23 million in 2016-17, with chief executive John Henderson heading the list on £203,393 - far outstripping Prime Minister Theresa May's annual salary of about £151,000.

Other big earners included director of families and communities Helen Riley who was paid £175,684 including an employer pension contribution of £29,233 and director of finance and resources Andrew Burns, who received £173,940 including an employer pension contribution of £29,233 and expenses of £9,367.

Councillor Philip Atkins, leader of Staffordshire County Council, said: "As a county council, we have reduced our own running costs by £240 million since 2009 while still protecting services."

"We now have a smaller core senior leadership team who are paid in line with the recommended guidelines."

John O'Connell, chief executive of the TaxPayers' Alliance, said: "There are talented people in the public sector who are trying to deliver more for less, but the sheer scale of these packages raise serious questions about priorities."

New college 'would reduce journey times'

A MULTI-MILLION pound new engineering college is in the pipeline for Cannock, council bosses have revealed.

Chiefs are in 'advanced talks' with a major backer over the college.

Cannock Chase Council leader Councillor George Adamson has said the project - part of a wider £6.5 million injection of cash - would allow students from Cannock to study locally, rather than travelling to Walsall or Lichfield.

It comes following the closure of Cannock college - when teaching stopped at the South Staffordshire College campus amid financial pressures.

Councillor Adamson says the new college would fill the void left after its closure in July last year.

He said: "We're looking to improve economic prospects in the district - school shortages are a major problem and in the 21st Century we need young people to be learning skills."

Advanced

"There are various things - we're looking at an engineering college as we are short on that skills set."

"We are in quite advanced talks with one major company about it."

"It would be a training establishment to meet the needs of young people. We want it based in Cannock Chase. We don't want them to have to travel. A lot of young people are having to go to Walsall and Lichfield after Cannock College closed."

The college would be built under the £6.5m District Investment Fund, which is being established this year.

The money, which will come from the receipts of land sales, will be used on a 'case-by-case basis' to support schemes which increase prosperity in Cannock Chase.

Examples could include infrastructure, skills support, town centre redevelopment and projects that involve creation of new jobs and business growth. No part of the fund will be derived from council tax.

Beth helps team gain Games glory



Beth Cobden in action during the women's netball against Australia

CANNOCK'S Beth Cobden will return home with a gold medal after helping to lead the England netball team to glory at the Commonwealth Games.

The 25-year-old, from Heath Hayes, was part of an extraordinary performance which saw Team England crowned champions with a 52-51 win over hosts Australia.

Cobden was part of the jubilant scenes after the final whistle, which repeated and exceeded the

semi-final win over Jamaica. Helen Housby netted in the final second for Tracey Neville's side to win the most astonishing of contests.

Jo Harten's last-gasp goal in Saturday's defeat of Jamaica sent the Roses into a first global final since 1975, after last-four appearances at all previous five Commonwealth Games.

That final 43 years ago ended in defeat to Australia, but the Roses were determined not to settle for



Beth with her gold medal

silver and delivered the gold. "It's my dream come true," Neville told BBC Sport.

There was also bronze in the women's rugby sevens for Lichfield Rugby Club's Emily Scarratt.

Meanwhile, Staffordshire County Council leader Councillor Philip Atkins has hailed 'an outstanding Games for Staffordshire athletes'.

He said: "I can speak on behalf of everyone in the county by saying we are proud of them."

Mugshots plea for Staffordshire Day

PEOPLE have a new way to take part in next month's Staffordshire Day.

Enjoy Staffordshire, Staffordshire County Council and the county's other local authorities who are behind Staffordshire Day on May 1 have introduced the Staffordshire Mugshot.

They are inviting people to share images of themselves on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook holding Staffordshire-made mugs, alongside the #StaffordshireDay hashtag.

The idea is to celebrate Staffordshire's world-famous ceramic heritage and contribute to the buzz on social media.

Councillor Mark Winnington, vice-chair of Enjoy Staffordshire, said: "This will be a fun way of highlighting our wonderful heritage." For details visit www.enjoystaffordshire.com/staffsday

Street food in park

AN outdoor street food festival is coming to Lichfield next month. The Cafe International art fresco festival is being held in Beacon Park on Saturday, May 5, from 10am to 10pm. It will also feature entertainment and a main bar, prosecco bar and a gin bar.

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Cash switch sees ward makeover downgraded

A MAJOR revamp of a ward at Stafford's County Hospital has been downgraded, with money earmarked for the project spent elsewhere.

Ward 1 at the hospital was set for a major overhaul, as part of a £15 million refurbishment programme at the site. Work on the respiratory ward, ward 12, the general medicine ward, ward 14, and elderly care, ward 15, has finished.

But at a meeting of the University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, which runs the hospital, Andrew Butters, director of business development, said planned work to ward 1 had been downgraded.

He said money for the work had been spent on other priorities, but there was £460,000 now allocated for a smaller revamp of the ward along with the acute medical unit. Ward 1 is currently closed.

Mr Butters said: "There is some money to [refurbish the two wards], but not enough to gut them out as [wards 12, 14 and 15] have been done."

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "Like any NHS trust we have ward capacity that is opened exclusively in the winter as escalation capacity."

"Ward 1 will remain available to clinicians should it be required and will form part of our winter plan for 2018-19. However, it is still our intention to refurbish those areas at the appropriate time," she added.

Songbirds' first show of the year

SONGBIRDS in Harmony, a choir based in Hednesford, are preparing for their first performance of 2018 next weekend.

Songbirds Afternoon Tea Treat takes place on Sunday, April 29 at Norton Canes Community Centre, starting at 3.30pm. Tickets are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/songbirdsinharmony or can be purchased on the door. For more details visit www.songbirdsinharmony.co.uk

Cannock Photography Society will also be displaying a selection of their photographs in support of the show.

Musical director Annette Scott started the choir in 2011 after being involved in many other similar projects. She is also a piano and singing teacher and singer-songwriter.

Teatime at church

AN afternoon tea will be held at St Thomas' Church in Stafford Road, Huntington, on Saturday between 2 and 4pm. Tickets are £5 available from the parish office or by calling 01543 502131 or 01543 502495.

Hospitals buy millions of disposable cups



Concern is growing over the impact of single-use throwaway items

HOSPITALS in Staffordshire and the Black Country bought millions of disposable cups over the last five years, new figures show.

Data obtained through Freedom of Information requests showed that NHS trusts in the West Midlands had bought millions of cups since 2013, amid rising concern over the environmental impact of single-use throwaway items.

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, which runs New Cross Hospital, ordered nearly four million during that period. The University

Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNH), which runs Stafford's County Hospital, purchased three times that amount – 14.7 million.

Figures from Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Russells Hall, showed it received 62,925 cups – but this does not include cups purchased through the trust's PFI partner. Figures from other Black Country trusts were not available.

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the city, ordered 10.1 million. At one

London trust, Guy's and St Thomas', almost 30 million cups were bought over a five-year period, with 6.2 million purchased in one year alone.

Cups are used across the NHS, from waiting rooms to wards.

UHNH sustainability manager Michelle Harris said: "Given the size and scale and the activity of an acute hospital with 11,000 staff and 1,450 beds, it is not unreasonable for this number of disposable cups to be used." Greenpeace UK said the figures prove 'just how out of control our relationship with single-use plastic has become'.

Campaigners welcome ban on last lion tamer

BRITAIN'S last lion tamer has been banned from using big cats in his travelling circus.

Thomas Chipperfield has been keeping two lions and a tiger at a farm on the A5 near Cannock.

Animal welfare campaigners have welcomed the decision by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to refuse him a licence to perform in England.

Defra cited Mr Chipperfield's 'previous conduct' as a reason for refusing to grant him a licence to use the big cats in his performances and said it was not satisfied licensing conditions would be met.

Animal rights campaigners had raised concerns about the conditions in which the lions and tiger were being kept in Norton Canes, as well as their use in circuses. Mr Chipperfield has insisted his animals receive the 'best care'. Protestors tried to break into Streetway Farm on Watling Street in January.

Travelling

Mr Chipperfield launched an appeal after Defra's ruling last July but it has now emerged the decision was upheld by magistrates. The lion tamer has said he intends to lodge a fresh appeal against the decision.

The Government has said it will not seek to renew regulations allowing animals in travelling circuses once they expire in 2020.

A Defra spokesperson said: "We remain absolute in our commitment to banning wild animals in circuses and intend to introduce the ban prior to the regulations expiring in January 2020. Until then, we will impose the strictest possible standards to ensure the welfare needs of these animals are met."

Jan Creamer, president of Animal Defenders International (ADI), said: "The decisive action taken by Defra and the court is a victory for common sense and, we hope, signals the beginning of the end of circus suffering in England."

"Travelling shows cannot meet animals' needs, and ADI has repeatedly documented suffering and abuse."

"Let's now consign these outdated acts to the past, where they belong, across the UK."



Here's to the future – new owner Alan Condon looks forward to the launch of the Hen House Sports & Music Bar, formerly Woody's

Stage is set for a new era at venue

THE countdown is on until an iconic music venue in Hednesford reopens with a new name and owner.

The Hen House Sports & Music Bar, formerly Woody's, launches tomorrow (Friday) after undergoing a refurbishment.

It has hosted hundreds of music acts over the years, including some of the region's finest tribute acts.

New owner Alan Condon says he is confident the Market Street venue can thrive.

He said: "I have been in this business for 30 years, I don't put my money to something I don't think will be a success."

"Without a shadow of a doubt it will be a thriving business."

Woody's shut its doors in February despite having advertised events until the end of last month.

Cannock-based band Bloke have been booked to perform tomorrow to mark the venue's reopening.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Garden open day brings in £550

MORE than £500 was raised for charity when a two-acre private garden opened its doors to the public for a spring showing.

People were allowed to explore the beauty of the Millennium Garden in Lichfield, as part of the National Garden Scheme. The initiative aims to raise money for charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and Hospice UK.

About 150 people enjoyed the garden's daffodil display as well as refreshments provided by the local Women's Institute.

The day raised £550 in total. The garden will next be open on May 20.

McElderry heads for town theatre

JOE McElderry will be at Cannock's Prince of Wales Theatre on May 3.

It comes after his lead role wowed audiences in performances of Bill Kenwright's Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

McElderry won X Factor in 2009 and his first single, The Climb, reached No 1 in both the UK and Ireland and received a Brit Award nomination for Best British Single in 2010.

He went on to win ITV's Popstar to Opera Star in 2011. To book tickets, go to boxoffice.wlct.org and for further details go to www.princeofwales.live

M6 driver rolling cigarette at wheel

A MAN was spotted rolling a cigarette at the wheel on the motorway – while steering his van with his knees.

The brazen driver was spotted on the M6 by police and is now due to face action.

Traffic officers were stunned to see the driver with both hands off the wheel while travelling along the motorway near Cannock.

The Central Motorway Policing Group said on Twitter: "Driver reported for rolling a cigarette while steering his van with his knees on the M6."

Extra date for popular Murder Mystery event

CANALSIDE Farm near Rugeley is putting on a second Murder Mystery event tomorrow (Friday) after the first showing sold out in two days.

The idea of the event, which is performed in the farm's cafe by The Creative Arts Theatre Group based in Stone, is to figure out 'who done it' while enjoying a meal.

Tickets for the event must be pre-booked at the Farm Shop or by emailing anna@canalsidefarm.co.uk

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COUNTY NEWS

Metro numbers 'balancing out'

BOSSSES at Midland Metro have said passenger numbers had started to 'balance out', after a drop in January – particularly on weekends.

Sophie Allison, Metro operations manager, said the figures were starting to come back to where they expect at last week's West Midlands Combined Authority's Transport Delivery Committee meeting.

The figures showed that the network saw a nine per cent fall in travelling customers in January 2018, compared to the same month in 2017. Passenger numbers were at 597,326 in January, compared to 653,085 12 months previously.

Homes demand in 7th monthly fall

BUYER demand for housing in the West Midlands continues to fall, new data reveals.

The RICS UK Residential Market survey reports buyer demand has dropped for the seventh consecutive month in the region. It revealed one of the main reasons was a lack of fresh stock coming onto the West Midlands' market, alongside ongoing concerns over affordability as house prices continued to rise.

Average stock levels on estate agents' books remains near an all-time low as the number of houses being put up for sale fell for the 30th consecutive month.

Push the Boat Out and try sailing

SAILORS and surfers can test their skills on the water next month. The Royal Yachting Association's Push the Boat Out scheme will allow novices to try sailing and windsurfing for free throughout May.

Events will be held at Himley Hall Sailing Club, Sandwell Valley Sailing Club, Dudley Sailing Club, Aldridge Sailing Club, Walsall's The Chase Sailing Club, South Staffordshire Sailing Club and Penkridge's Greensforge Sailing Club.

Third of landlords looking for tenants

THE number of landlords experiencing a void period in the West Midlands in the past three months matched the national average of 35 per cent.

The UK Association of Letting Agents said 63 per cent of time when properties were empty were due to natural tenant changeover.

The North East and North West experienced the highest level of voids at 53 per cent.

M6 stretch is region's worst for jams

ONLY half of journeys are completed on time on part of the M6.

Just 51.5 per cent of drivers travelling between junctions 10 for Walsall and 10A for the M54 got to their destination on time, according to a new study, which has taken a look at all of the region's worst clogged-up roads.

Analysts say the results may come as no surprise for regular motorway users who have to put up with delays

on a daily basis. Walsall has been revealed as the worst motorway junction in terms of congestion in the West Midlands.

Journey times also suffer between junctions 10 and 9 at Walsall, with 57.6 per cent completed on time, according to car insurance firm Go Compare. Another traffic hotspot is on the M54, between junctions four and five at Telford, where 61 per cent

of journeys are completed on time due to drivers being stuck in long queues.

Two thirds of journeys – 66.6 per cent – go as planned between junctions one and two of the M5, a notorious section where journey times have been hampered in recent months by a major roadworks scheme at Oldbury.

It comes after it was revealed that Birmingham's roads are the fourth worst in the country in terms of con-

gestion, ranked behind just London, Manchester and Aberdeen for the worst delays in cities across the country.

Birmingham also has the worst two roads in the country – the A34 northbound between Robin Hood Lane and the A4540 in Hall Green in the south of the city, and the A34 southbound between the A4540 and Shaftmoor Lane in Acocks Green.

Busier than ever – 25m enjoy visits to county

MORE than 25 million people from the UK and abroad visited Staffordshire last year, making 2017 the county's busiest ever year, new figures reveal.

The visitors, who either came for the day or made an overnight trip, helped generate almost £1.3 billion in direct spend on accommodation, entertainment, travel, shopping and food and drink.

Staffordshire's tourism sector now supports more than 31,000 jobs in the county and generates an additional £485 million of associated spend in the area.

Among the most popular attractions are two of the county's leading theme parks – Drayton Manor Park and Alton Towers.

Councillor Mark Winnington, cabinet member for economic growth at Staffordshire County Council and deputy chairman of Destination Staffordshire, said: "Staffordshire is a wonderful county to visit with a rich tapestry of visitor attractions.

"Tourism is really booming here in the county and plays an important role in our overall economy. Our local tourism businesses continue to do a great job, attracting more and more visitors, bringing in over £100 million a month for the local economy and sustaining tens of thousands of jobs."

The tourism industry in the county has been enjoying record growth in recent years and now makes a significant contribution to the local economy, he said. Since 2008, the overall sector spend has grown by almost 42 per cent, while overnight stays have grown by more than 36 per cent, and day trips by 40 per cent.

County takes in more refugees

SEVEN more refugee families have arrived in Staffordshire after fleeing the Syrian Civil War.

The arrival of the families comes after 51 refugees settled in the county in 2016-17 and is part of a pledge by Staffordshire County Council to accommodate families under the Government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

Only people deemed most at risk in Syria are brought to the UK under the scheme, which sees refugees settled around the country with the help of local councils which have volunteered to take part.

In Staffordshire the families have been placed in the Lichfield, Moorlands and East Staffordshire districts and are now settling into their new homes.

By Charlotte Callair

LONG-AWAITED plans for extra car parking spaces outside a popular sports centre will cost £85,000 – but two councils are at loggerheads over who should foot the bill.

The number of parking spaces outside 5's Pavilion and Sports Ground in Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, will go up from 30 to 70 after residents were angered by visitors parking dangerously on the paths and near junctions.

Cannock Chase Council will pay £80,000 while Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, which is the operator of the centre, has agreed to contribute £5,000.

But council leader Councillor George Adamson has hit out at Staffordshire County Council for refusing to match £40,000 of the funding. He said: "It is wonderful for residents.

Agreed

It is a bit of a disappointment the county council are not prepared to pay their share but nevertheless we, the district council, will pick up the tab.

"We can go ahead with the scheme as quickly as possible but no date has been set yet."

County Councillor Bryan Jones insisted parking was the responsibility of the district council. He claimed it had initially agreed to pay for the project with the county council covering the costs of parking restrictions, including double yellow lines.

He said: "The 5's Pavilion and Sports Ground is a fantastic facility. Sadly, inadequate planning by Cannock Chase Council has led to parking misery for local residents. This could have been avoided if they had accepted in the first place their leisure responsibilities. Staffordshire County Council's budget was decided in February with a focus on its wide-reaching statutory responsibilities."

Advert star shakes things up in town



Star of the Specsavers Zumba advert Hayley-Jo Whitney puts staff from the optician's Cannock store through their paces

THE star of a television commercial challenged shoppers to test their fitness levels.

Zumba teacher Hayley-Jo Whitney became known to millions as the short-sighted fitness teacher in a Specsavers TV advert who led a group of pensioners expecting a bingo session in an energetic workout instead, with her catchphrase 'Shake what your mother gave ya'.

The special guest wowed customers and passers-by with a five-minute high-energy routine outside the company's Cannock store to mark the first anniversary in its new location. Store director Claire Blandford joined the store two years ago and oversaw its move across the

high street. She said: "It's been a great day, and the kids have loved it too. We've had free face-painting so they've all been going round with dragons and butterflies on the faces. Lots of people joined in the fitness session, we've had great fun."

As well as celebrating their first year, the event kicked off a 12-month charity challenge, when the store will be supporting a different cause each month.

The first event, an eight-hour endurance challenge, starts at midnight on Saturday, May 19 and will raise money for Muscular Dystrophy UK. Staff kicked off the fundraising by collecting donations.

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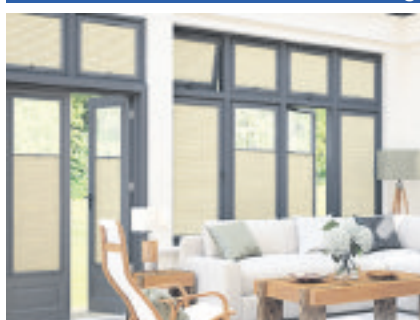
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New backing in the battle to tackle fraudsters

THE battle against scammers has been stepped up in Staffordshire.

It follows the launch of the Trading Standards Friends Against Scams campaign, which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims.

With millions of people potentially at risk, the initiative is designed to empower communities to 'Take a Stand Against Scams'.

It is estimated that the cost of scams to consumers is £11 billion each year, in addition to long-term psychological effects that can ultimately destroy lives.

Now, Staffordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner's Office is supporting the campaign.

Deputy PCC Sue Arnold, who has become a SCAMBassador, said: 'Scams often target the most vulnerable people in society but the reality is that anyone can become a victim of scams.'

'Scams damage lives and can affect people financially and emotionally.'

The campaign's team manager, Louise Baxter, said: 'The tactics used by scammers leave victims socially isolated and ashamed of telling their friends and families what's really going on behind closed doors.'

'It is fantastic to have such an influential organisation to help us tackle this problem on a local, regional and national level.'

Group shortlisted for three awards

HOUSING Plus Group has three reasons to celebrate, with the publication of the shortlist for the national Housing Heroes Awards.

The housing and care provider, which has customers in Staffordshire and Shropshire, is among the finalists in three categories. Group member Care Plus has been recognised for its At Home service, supporting older people who want to continue living independently, in their own homes; its carers are finalists for the Support and Care Team of the Year award.

Property Plus is one of the finalists for the Development or Maintenance Team of the Year title, and the Housing Plus Group communication team has been shortlisted in the Communications Team of the Year category.

Break in walking

CANNOCK & District Group Ramblers are visiting Eastbourne this weekend, so there will be no local walk. New walkers are welcome to join their outings, which they say will be back to normal on April 29.

Family's farewell to 'a beautiful wife'



Julie and Tim at their wedding

THE heartbroken husband of Julie Elsmore, who died days after her wedding at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital, said a final farewell to his 'beautiful' and 'happy' wife at her funeral on Monday.

Julie's family said the 48-year-old from Cannock would be forever missed for her 'positivity and beautiful smile'.

More than 100 mourners gathered at St Peter's Church, Hednesford, less than a month after Julie tied the knot with her partner of six years Tim Elsmore in a 'dream come true' ceremony. She had been diagnosed with terminal

cancer three months before. She died on March 24.

With help from his two grown-up children Ria and Reid, Tim carried his wife's coffin into the church to the song 'How Long Will I Love You' by Ellie Goulding - while Julie's parents Geoff and Pat Rowley slowly followed.

Tim's daughter Ria penned a heart-warming tribute which said: 'I asked my Dad if I could write a speech to Julie as I had so many lovely things to say about her. She was the most beautiful person inside and out.'

Ria said she and brother Reid would

play in the street and Julie would often walk past to collect leaves for her rabbits, before she and Tim became a couple.

'Every time she passed us she had a beaming smile. We nicknamed her 'Smiler', she added.

Julie loved gardening, tending to her pet cats and rabbits, and colouring on canvas but her loved ones said her 'greatest passion' was for Tim and her family.

Rev Paul Kelly said: 'She had found love and happiness over six years of her life, which was so tragically cut short.'

School does it again with tip-top verdict

A PRIMARY school in Burntwood has been rated outstanding for the second time in a row by watchdog Ofsted.

St Joseph and St Theresa Catholic Primary was praised across the board.

It is the second consecutive outstanding rating for the school after it previously received the highest grading in 2009.

The headteacher, Isabel Walker, was singled out in the report for successfully building on the substantial strengths previously established at the school, and introducing a fresh outlook 'which required all staff to adopt and accept higher expectations and greater levels of challenge'.

Mrs Walker took over as head in September 2017, having previously worked as deputy headteacher.

School governors confirmed she was committed to making sure ongoing improvements are fully implemented, meticulously checked and never relaxed.

Praised

'You have quickly created a strong team of staff who are resolute in providing rich learning opportunities and high levels of support for each pupil,' the report added.

School staff were praised for raising standards and attainment in reading, writing and mathematics.

In 2016, published school data showed the rate of pupils' progress by the end of key stage 2 was well below the national average in all three key areas.

The report stated pupils' work in all subjects is 'presented to a very high standard.'

In maths, 'teachers plan daily lessons which ensure that pupils gain the right breadth of knowledge, depth of understanding and application of skills', the report said.

Mrs Walker was also praised for the outcome of introducing 'drop everything and read' sessions, which provide greater opportunities for pupils to read.

The school has been told to further consolidate and embed recent initiatives in reading and mathematics to continue its improvement.

Marathon men show character



Jon Green, left, and Colin Plews bumped into boxing legend Frank Bruno at the Great North Run

A DISNEY princess is not the first character you might expect a 6ft 7in, 20st bearded man to dress up as, but Jon Green, from Cannock, will defy stereotypes when he and best friend Colin Plews run the London Marathon on Sunday dressed as Beauty and The Beast.

The duo met at the same event three years ago and immediately

struck up a close friendship. 'He was struggling around the London Marathon and I said to him 'Look mate I'll get you around', Jon said.

'I did and after that we became best mates.'

Like Jon, Colin, who is from Newcastle, towers above most other runners at 6ft 6in. To-

gether, they are hoping to raise £5,000 for Breast Cancer Now - the UK's largest breast cancer research charity.

Jon, 38, has completed 10 running events in aid of charity. This will be his third time taking on the London Marathon.

Last year he completed the 26-mile route dressed as a lion.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Store raises £800 for Sport Relief

STAFF at Sainsbury's in Cannock are celebrating after raising £886.92 for Sport Relief.

The team took part in a variety of fundraising events during the weeks leading up to Sport Relief's big finale. The main activity was cycling at the front of the store, and customers were also invited to join the fun.

Store manager Andrew Beardmore said: 'We always enjoy coming up with lots of fun and creative activities to get everyone involved.'

During the TV finale on Friday, Sainsbury's announced it had raised more than £6.1 million for Sport Relief with more still to be collected.

£1k donation aids school library bid

A HEDNESFORD school has been given a cash boost by a builder to help it provide a new library for pupils.

Persimmon Homes West Midlands, based in Wolverhampton, donated £1,000 to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School through its Community Champions scheme.

The builder chose the school to benefit from its monthly match-funded donation.

The school, in Hill Top, has been raising money to provide a new library in the school to be enjoyed by all of its pupils, from nursery to Year 6.

Saint celebration in aid of appeal

AN event celebrating St George's Day is to be held in Great Wyrley this weekend.

St George will ride on his Shire Horse followed in a horse-drawn dray by young St George Kyle Abnett and English Rose Isabella Maullin, who were chosen at a St George's Disco last month.

A walking procession will leave Harrison's Sports & Social Club in Wharwell Lane at midday on Saturday followed by a fete at 2pm.

All the proceeds will go towards the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Table top sales will boost church fund

SALEM Methodist Church in Cheslyn Hay is holding a series of table top sales in its Sunday school hall.

The first one is on April 28 from 3pm to 6pm. To secure a £5 table, call 01922 412044. Buyers get free entry.

Future sales are planned for Saturday, June 23, between 3pm and 6pm; Friday, July 27, 6pm-9pm; Saturday, August 25, 3pm-6pm.

All proceeds will go into the Salem Development Fund.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Sour note as speed bumps go musical

NOW this is what you call traffic management. In an attempt to get motorists to stick to the speed limit, local bigwigs representing Jelsum in the Netherlands had the bright idea of installing musical rumble strips along the road into the village.

When cars drive over the strips at the correct speed of 40mph, sensors in the road activate chimes which reward the driver by playing the Friesland provincial anthem. You don't think they had been smoking anything unusual before the meeting, do you?

Still, it sounds a sight more fun than the infuriating speed humps, barriers, chicanes and white paint we get in this country. However, it does not seem to be music to the ears of residents, who complained of being kept awake by the continuous droning which travels right the way through the village.

One resident complained of artistic taxi drivers going back and forth all night at varying speeds to produce their own arrangements.

"Last Saturday night the taxis were driving from Leeuwarden to Stiens and on the way back, they tried to go across the lines as quickly as possible and we had the anthem playing all night at high speed," said one.

Some people will complain about anything, won't they? They ought to try living along some of our country lanes, where drivers crash over the massive potholes day and night. Not nearly so tuncful.

□ □ □

AFTER years in the wilderness, it looks like the Black Country could soon be back on the national railway map. Well sort of. Seven new stations are being considered for the West Midlands, including the re-opening of Darlaston and Willenhall stations. This sounds like great news.

I do worry about plans for a new service linking Wolverhampton to the Merry Hill shopping centre, though, with no mention whatsoever of a stop at Dudley along the way. Town centres have it tough enough as it is, without giving Wulfrunians an easy route to an out-of-town shopping centre. I fear that can only suck more life out of the city. And if you are going to create this service, why wouldn't you have a station in Dudley, next to the zoo, Black Country Museum and, dare we say it, the Hippodrome theatre? So much for creating a major tourist zone.

Interestingly, while Dudley Zoo appears to have been overlooked, rail chiefs are keen to provide a service to West Midland Safari Park. So, you get off the train, pay your admission, and walk straight into the lion enclosure. Remind me to bring my camcorder.

'Men deserts' – where young boys lack role models



Eric Bristow – achieved an unexpected immortality 8,000 miles away



Peter Kay – no leak on what was the unforeseen family circumstances



David Lammy – Tottenham MP, was understandably emotional over death toll rise

Rising death toll and the absent fathers

AS the death toll rises on London's streets, the commonest cry is "Where are you?" David Lammy, the black MP for Tottenham, was understandably emotional as he yelled: "Why is there a political vacuum? Where is the Prime Minister? Where is the Home Secretary? Where is Sadiq Khan?" A street demo took up the cry for the guilty missing: "Where are the police, where are the pastors?" And yet no-one shouted the most crucial question of all. Where are the fathers?

TIME after time, academic studies of gang culture in black communities highlight the huge numbers of absent fathers. Some neighbourhoods are dubbed "men deserts" because most households are run by a woman and young black boys have no role models in the home. David Lammy knows all about it; his own father walked out on the family and fled to America. Why are politicians so reluctant to mention this issue? Probably because they are instantly howled down and accused of attacking, undermining and disrespecting single mothers. But as Lammy wrote in the Daily Telegraph six years ago: "Many single mothers do a heroic job looking after their families . . . but it becomes twice as hard to set boundaries with half the number of parents." And while more cops, more pastors and more interest from politicians might help London's agony, it is hard to see any end to the carnage when so many dads are missing and no-one is setting any boundaries.

I WROTE recently about my Saturday job as a 15-year-old mechanic's mate. Jim the mechanic taught me a lesson which has stood me in good stead. It is this: if you dismantle something and then reassemble it, there will always be a few bits left over. I hope this brings some

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



comfort to those of you who, as spring arrives, have been trying to fix the lawnmower.

I THOUGHT the public sector was being educated to address people correctly. A reader tells me he has a relative in hospital in East Anglia. Every time he telephones the place he is greeted with "Allo, moi luvverly."

YOU may think we live in a world where the all-prying internet lays bare all our deepest secrets. Is nothing confidential any more? And then you think of Peter Kay, currently launching the third and final series of Car Share. In December last year Kay suddenly announced: "Due to unforeseen family circumstances, I deeply regret that I am having to cancel all of my upcoming work projects." And from that day to this no-one has discovered what the unforeseen family circumstances were. Not a leak, not a peep. Extraordinary.

TALKING of which, here's a new advert: It's the deadliest nerve agent ever invented! It penetrates the latest protective suits! A single drop can kill an entire army in seconds! Especially effective against old Russians and their daughters! Novichok - it doesn't do exactly what it says on the tin.

THE Salisbury incident is turning into a sort of test of patriotism. If you believe the official government line, then you are a good egg. If you happen to think, like Mr Corbyn and me,

that the speculation and accusations should not have raced ahead of the hard evidence, you are a 'useful idiot' doing the Kremlin's work. I am expecting a sackful of roubles any day now.

A SURVEY by a mineral-water company suggests mosts Brits are stuck in a Groundhog Day existence, endlessly repeating the same conversations, same breakfasts, same dinner, same holiday destinations, same advice to children, and so on. But what has any of this to do with bottled water? A spokeswoman for the company declares: "We're all naturally driven to make the most of every day and being properly hydrated helps us get there." Advertising – same old cobbler.

ERIC Bristow has died far too soon but the darts legend may have achieved an unexpected immortality 8,000 miles away. In the Falkland Islands, the helicopters used by civilians and UK military in the years after the 1982 war were provided by the aviation company Bristow. Inevitably, the squaddies called the helicopters Eric's and, all these years later, the term is still in use.

JEREMY Clarkson tells the story of a lad who was horrified to find so many deductions from his first wage packet. It was explained that this money was taken to pay for hospital, schools and so on. The boy accepted it stoically. But the next week, when his second wage packet arrived, he rang home in despair: "Mum - they've done it again."

MICE have reappeared in our house, the garden is full of rabbits, a pheasant has built a nest under one window and the other night a rat wandered across the yard. What has changed? It is six weeks since our old tabby cat died.

TALKING POINT



Response to the bad weather is – panic!

WITH temperatures creeping up, daffodils out and a promise that spring might actually be here, it is time to reflect on this miserable wintertime.

Snow, wind, rain, floods we have had it all. So what have we learnt during these bleak winter days? Personally, I have discovered the following 10 things:

1 There is a Beast of the East. He has rarely troubled us in the past but after the first rampage he got a taste for mayhem and misery and decided to come back and the mini beasts were also fearsome.

2 There are different kinds of snow. Apparently you can have 3ft of snow in the back garden but may not be able to build a decent snowman. Snow from the east seems to be very fine.

3 Our country is no longer equipped to deal with rain or thawing snow. Any persistent rain will lead to flood alerts and sewage floating into someone's back garden.

4 Britain's roads are in no state to handle bad weather. Whatever the weather may bring over winter we can be sure that we will be left with roads resembling the surface of the Moon. And there is nothing a pothole loves more than a puddle to hide in.

5 Despite snow, black ice or flood water there will always be one arrogant motorist who will drive at the speed limit – at a minimum – because a bit of bad weather isn't going to stop them. This persists even if it means they are driving so close that they are forcing you out of the narrow snow tracks while they overtake, or your car is drowned as they steam through flood waters.

6 In snow, black ice or flood water there will always be one terrified driver who should not have left the house and is clutching the steering wheel in fear, barely clocking up 10mph. This means you are struggling to maintain a braking distance and are forced out of the narrow snow tracks or into a deeper part of the puddle to overtake.

7 It does not actually have to snow for schools to shut, the mere threat is enough for the circulation of 'school closure' texts. And don't assume just because the teachers have made it in that your children will be allowed to stay in school.

8 The slightest incline that you have never even noticed before becomes equivalent to the Eiger for any HGVs or buses when covered in snow/ice.

9 HGVs and buses should not go out when roads are covered in snow and particularly not in hilly Staffordshire.

10 However much warning we are given there will only ever be one response from us Brits - panic!

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No joking – Sid reckons he found a real diamond



Sid and Isabel Sedgley are celebrating their diamond wedding – 'it's been marvellous'

"I'VE always said that our marriage is based on trust and understanding. She can never trust me and I can never understand her!"

Sid Sedgley likes a joke, but admitted that his marriage to Isabel had been wonderful and that he couldn't believe, when they met, she'd be interested in him.

The couple have now been wed a diamond 60 years and celebrated with a low-key trip to their local pub in Rugeley. Mr Sedgley, aged 80, said: "It's

been marvellous. We got a card from the Queen, which was very special."

The pair were married in Mr Sedgley's hometown of West Bromwich, at All Saints Church, and then set up a home in the area. They had two sons, Steven and Martyn.

Mr Sedgley started working as a carpenter, while Mrs Sedgley, now 79, worked at a printing firm.

The family also managed to save up enough to buy their first home in 1968 and moved to live in Etchinghill.

They then downsized to Rugeley once their boys had flown the nest.



The couple on their wedding day



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Seeing GP is not easy

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R PEATY
Cannock

Always carry an allergy list

I WANT to offer some advice to anyone with high blood pressure after I recently collapsed and was taken to A&E.

My advice is, if you have high blood pressure, carry a prescription and an allergy list on you at all times.

M GRATTIDGE
Rugeley

Passers-by were so kind after fall at shops

ON Good Friday while on a shopping visit to Lichfield my wife Margaret tripped and fell at the top of the precinct just up above Argos.

As she fell she put her hands out as a natural reaction to save herself but fell flat out on the pavement, and I would like to thank the gentleman who seemed to be trained in first aid and helped my wife and stayed with us as long as he could. Also I want to thank

the young lady for phoning for an ambulance and for her kindness in how she helped my wife and put her to her ease while we waited for an ambulance.

This lady held my wife in her arms and made her so comfortable that my wife fell asleep in her arms, and the gentleman supported my wife's back.

The young lady had her husband and son who I must say was a credit to her and also had a baby in a buggy who her

husband was looking after, and they would not leave us. My wife and myself want to thank them from the bottom of our hearts for their patience and help.

There are not words enough to express my thanks for their help and kindness, also thanks to the ambulance men for their kindness. My wife is OK apart from a badly bruised hand.

BRIAN AND MARGARET BAKER
Burntwood

Not all players are aggressive

IT is sad to see a football referee giving up the game because he has been assaulted.

May I say, as a fellow ref, that the majority of Sunday footballers I have refereed are a good set of lads.

Saying that, they will give you some stick if they think you are wrong, and There are some bad eggs

But without a referee, good or bad, a game is not worth playing.

ROGER ALLEN
Great Wyrley

Area should have been given name

WITH reference to the article "Post office on the market for £75k" (Chronicle, April 5).

The post office in question was said to be Burntwood post office. That is rather confusing as Burntwood post office is at 1 Cannock Road, Burntwood, and as far as I know is not for sale. The post office in question is, I am sure, Chase Terrace post office, Cannock Road, Chase Terrace, Burntwood.

I do sympathise with this easy-to-make mistake, which is as a result of the conurbation of Burntwood, Chase-town and Chase Terrace (also Boney Hay) not being given 'a name' when it was created back in the 1960s, instead coming under the 'blanket' name of 'Burntwood'. My only other remark is to thank all concerned for putting together an interesting newspaper that I always enjoy reading.

KEITH POWELL
Burntwood

I would like gifts to go to a good home

BACK in 1985 I was adopted by the people of the Pitjan-jatjara. I lived with them for one year, and they taught me their ways and beliefs.

Upon my leaving they showered me with gifts, and sadly I have to part with these items - these are listed in my book Living with the Aborigines by Robert Westworth (Amazon).

Also I have a slab of black opal in its natural state, embedded in a piece of white manta given to me by the man who adopted me. After all the years it breaks my heart to part with the gifts but I would be grateful if anyone could find me a buyer for them or guide me to someone to help me. I can be contacted on 07835 387735.

ROBERT WESTWORTH
Rugeley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle,
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On the surface

THE improvements to local parks and sports grounds is great news but how disappointing for the completion of Hagley Playing Field to have stopped. It appears to have been kicked into the 'long grass' - if only there was some grass on it.

D GAYE, PARISH CLLR
Rugeley

Competition is lacking

WITH reference to the article about Sunday bus services ("New approach demanded", Chronicle, April 12).

Twenty years ago, bus services in the area were run by small operators, of which my own company was one.

Gradually, Arriva won a monopoly, aided by the bureaucracy imposed by all levels of government. There are no longer small bus companies to provide any competition.

MARK ELLSE
Cannock

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Tales from the road as a patrol driver



Ann Legg

FOLLOWING the Cannock and District Ladies Probud AGM in April new chairman Sheila Burrows opened her first meeting of the year, welcoming members and four prospective members. Following a meal, the speaker Trevor Poxon told some humorous tales from his time as a police motorway patrol driver.

Ladies Probud

Flowers were presented to two retiring attendance secretaries after five years in the role: Gill Hackett and Ann Legg.

Meetings are held at The Chase Golf and Country Club on the first Thursday of the month

at midday. Call 01543 505107 or visit www.probusonline.org

• Cannock Chase Ladies' Probud Club held their 31st birthday luncheon at The Barns, Huntington, on March 29.

The club meets on the last Thursday of the month. Membership inquiries to Mrs Norma Hutchinson on 01543 505183.

Members mark 96th birthday

Burntwood WI

APRIL is the club's birthday meeting, this year being its 96th.

Two new visitors and Yvonne Instone, a long-standing member who moved away last year, join in the celebrations.

Because last month's meeting, the AGM, was cancelled due to the weather, the business from that was dealt with first.

Members then sat back to reminisce about their school days with the speaker for the evening Kath Reynolds, whose talk was titled 'Gymnastics and Chalkboards'.

Her talk and slides took everyone back to 'the best days of our lives'. The competition, which was a school photograph, was won by Janet Evans.

Ron Box's 'thought for the month' brought the meeting to a close.

There will be a fashion show staged by Bon Marche, Lichfield, at Hammerwich Cricket Club on April 30 at 1pm. Tickets are £3 available from Ron Box and is open to non-members.

Three rewarded for their loyal service



From left, Lakhwinder Thompson, Val Jones, Trish Mellor and Pam McGauley

CANNOCK Soroptimists held their AGM at the beginning of April.

One of the final tasks out-going president Val Jones undertook was to acknowledge the years of service to Soroptimist International - and the Cannock & District club - that three members in particular have given.

Pam McGauley, Trish Mellor and Lakhwinder Thompson all joined the club in 1998 and so have each given 20 years of service to SI Cannock & District.

To mark the occasion Val presented each of them with a long-service certificate.

All three members have held the role of president within the club and Trish and

Cannock Soroptimists

Lakhwinder have each been club secretary. Trish has been programme action officer, and has been the club's press officer for a number of years.

Lakhwinder has been treasurer, and membership secretary and has held the post of friendship link co-ordinator for some time. Pam has been membership officer both at the club and at Midland Chase Region. She has often served as a member of the Club's executive committee.

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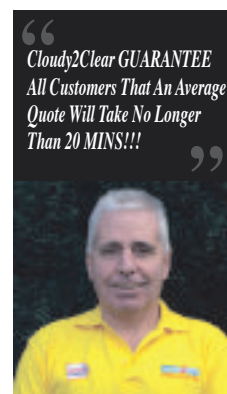
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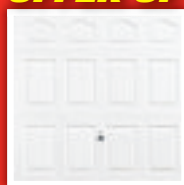
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Input urged on traveller caravan sites consultation

CANNOCK Chase MP Amanda Milling is urging residents who have had any experience of travellers to take part in a consultation.

She has raised the issue of illegal sites in the district with authorities. The locations include Stokes Lane, Barnard Way, Cannock Chase Leisure Centre and open space off Delta Way and Laburnum Avenue.

The Government consultation is being run until June 15.

She said: "There are many travelling communities that don't cause issues to local residents and are very good neighbours."

"However, that has not been the case with some of those that have stopped in Cannock Chase."

"Residents have reported litter, building waste, animal waste, noise complaints and an increase in anti-social behaviour in the area."

"This is an issue that myself and many colleagues have raised in Parliament, and directly with ministers, so I am glad that the Government is looking at the laws around travelling communities."

"I hope that residents who have been affected by travelling communities take part in the consultation and include their views and experiences with the Government."

For more details visit www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-review-powers-to-deal-with-unauthorised-caravan-sites

Gig at football club

LOCAL bands Playthings, Not Quite Dead Yet and Marquis Drive are playing at Walsall Wood Football Club in Brownhills Road, Walsall Wood, this Saturday, starting at 3pm. For further details about the gig, email Paul Dainty on rockingdaint@btinternet.com

'At home' care team are in line for £20,000 prize



The rapid intervention team at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust have been nominated for a nursing award for their dedication

NURSES have been shortlisted for a prestigious award – which could see them win £20,000.

The rapid intervention team at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust have been nominated for the Burdett Nursing Award for their dedication and success in safely caring for acutely unwell patients at home, preventing hospital admissions.

Thanks to their efforts, there has been a reduction in A&E attendances and readmissions.

The awards recognise nursing teams for their sustained commitment to providing high-quality care.

Winners in seven categories will receive a charitable grant award of £20,000. All remaining shortlisted teams will receive £2,500. The rapid intervention team have been shortlisted in the 'Who Cares' category.

Jodie Winfield, from the adult community services group, said: "The rapid intervention team were nominated for really pushing the boundaries of nursing to prevent admissions

and for safely caring for acutely unwell patients at home."

"This service has undoubtedly improved patient choice, control and quality of life."

"If the team won the category the money would be invested back into the team for education and development."

The award ceremony is being held in London on May 24.

Rachael Berks, from the trust, added: "The team feel very honoured to have been shortlisted for such a prestigious award."

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Good move! Cheslyn Hay team are national chess champions



Cheslyn Hay Boys' Brigade chess team, from left, Thomas Walters, Vincent Jordan and John Walters

A TEAM from Cheslyn Hay have become the national chess champions in this year's Boys' Brigade competition.

To get to the final in Northern Ireland, the boys competed against other teams in a number of rounds, emerging as England champions.

Eighteen-year-olds Vincent Jordan, John Walters and Thomas Walters, who are all from Cheslyn Hay, lifted the trophy after beating the champions of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. They have been in the Cheslyn Hay company since joining the Anchor Boys aged five. They are now in their last year of Boys' Brigade.

Thomas said: "After the disappointment of losing last year's final on count-back, it was a pleasure to repre-

sent 1st Cheslyn Hay at another UK final and try to improve on last year's result. Our well-deserved victory was a culmination of hard practice, experience and commitment to achieve our goal of winning a national final – the very first in our company's history."

John said: "The competition was fantastic and well organised, and I would like to thank everyone who helped organise this for making the experience even better."

And the company's journey in national competitions has not finished – a team have also reached the final of the Masterteam quiz competition one April 28 in Liverpool. Cheslyn Hay missed out on their third final after losing in the badminton semi-finals.



Chess players taking part in the final

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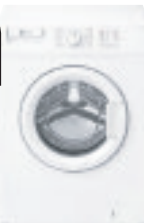
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Claverley invests in mags group

THE Claverley Group has taken a majority shareholding in Kennedy Enterprises, publisher of children's magazines.

Kennedy publishes a portfolio of 25 magazines, with annual copy sales close to four million. The investment will see Kennedy Publishing, the company under which Kennedy Enterprise trades, continue to operate from its base in Wick, near Bristol.

The agreement with Claverley has been made with a view to support the further growth of the business. Dean Barber, cir-

ulation director of the Claverley-owned Midland News Association, has been appointed as managing director of Kennedy Publishing.

The Claverley Group comprises MNA, publisher of the Express & Star, Shropshire Star and weeklies including the Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle; the Guiton Group, which owns the Jersey Evening Post and Guernsey Press; commercial print company Precision Colour Printing; and publishing software firm Press Computer Systems.

Towns lose 15 shops in year, survey shows

TWO Staffordshire town centres ended 2017 with a combined 15 fewer shops than at the start of the year, according to a new study. Research by the Local Data Company has found 13 shops opened up in Stafford and Cannock town centres in 2017 – but 28 closed.

In Stafford, six stores opened and 14 closed for a 4.97 per cent drop in the number of open retail units. Cannock saw seven open and 14 close for a net reduction of seven shops – a 7.78 per cent loss. Meanwhile, Dudley ended 2017 with nine fewer shops than it started with and Wolverhampton two fewer.

Walsall and West Bromwich both had two more stores open than close.

The decline in the West Midlands is around two-and-a-half times worse than 2016, when the region experienced a net loss of 60.

The data was compiled for professional services firm PwC, whose leader of retail and consumer practice in the Midlands, Andy Lyon, said 2017 proved to be 'one of the toughest trading periods West Midlands retailers have experienced in years'.

Improvements

"We saw volatility from month to month, and across different sectors as wage growth failed to keep up with inflation, forcing many shoppers to think more carefully about their spending habits," he said.

Ninder Johal, of the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership, said: "It's good to see that parts of the Black Country are showing improvements."

"But of course overall the structural problems for retail continue – with changing consumer tastes, competition from places like Amazon and of course the digital economy. I'm confident that the economy in the Black Country seems to be in a good place."

We are sailing into a sunny spring!



Lola Sperling, front, was among those taking part in a free training session on the water at the weekend

FAMILIES got out on the water as spring finally arrived. . . although it was just as the school holidays came to an end! Lola Sperling, aged seven, from Wolverhampton, was among those who climbed aboard to try a spot of sailing at South Staffordshire Sailing Club in Gailey at the weekend as the region was treated to some long-awaited sunshine.

And the good news is that the weather is to get better. Forecasters have predicted the hottest day of the year so far is on the cards – which could see the mercury hit 20C today (Thursday), just weeks after seeing snow and blizzards as part of the 'Beast from the East'.

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Express & Star

'Holy Grail' of Tolkien texts to be published

Special report by Tom Oakley

THE 'Holy Grail' of JRR Tolkien's books – likely to have been written in Staffordshire – will finally be published.

The Fall of Gondolin, which the author described as 'the first real story' set in Middle-earth, is to be published as a stand-alone book for the first time.

The author started writing it in 1917, before returning to Middle-earth for The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings.

And the Tolkien Society says it was probably written during the period he spent at Great Haywood. HarperCollins says The Fall of Gondolin will be published in August.

Dream

Edited by his son Christopher Tolkien, aged 93, and illustrated by Alan Lee, it will follow the same format as Beren and Lúthien, published last year, separating out the story so that it stands alone while showing how the narrative evolved over the years.

Tolkien Society chair Shaun Gunner said: "We never dared to dream that we would see this published. The Fall of Gondolin is, to many in the Tolkien community, the Holy Grail of Tolkien texts as one of Tolkien's three Great Tales alongside The Children of Húrin, and Beren and Lúthien."

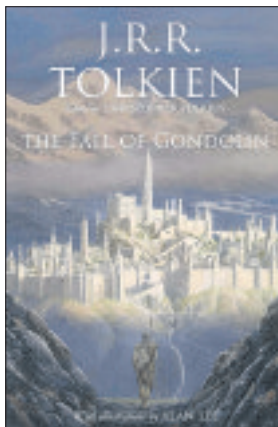
"This beautiful story captures the rise and fall of a great Elven kingdom, taking place millennia before the events of The Lord of the Rings."

"This book brings all the existing work together in one place to present the story in full."

This version is the only full account of the story and belongs with 'the Book of Lost Tales', the earliest phase of Tolkien's mythology. A compressed version of the story was written between 1926 and 1930 to bring it into harmony with the now much changed Silmarillion. Then in 1951, Tolkien began work on an



JRR Tolkien – narrative



The cover of the Fall Of Gondolin

entirely refashioned account that comes to an abrupt end once Tuor reaches the hidden city of Gondolin.

Christopher Tolkien described his father's abandonment of this text as 'one of the saddest facts in the whole history of incompletion' in The Book of Lost Tales Part Two.

The Fall of Gondolin will run to 304 pages and be published in hardback, deluxe hardback, large print and e-book on August 30.

The book will be published in the United States by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and in other languages by numerous Tolkien publishers worldwide.

People interested in celebrating the author of The Lord of the Rings and his links with Staffordshire can get the chance at a unique exhibition.

This insight into the early years of JRR Tolkien, one of the world's best-loved writers, and his time spent in Staffordshire, has already been seen by more than 220,000 visitors since it launched in March 2016. The exhibition is currently at Chasewater Country Park until this Saturday, April 21.

Chiefs in vow over lettings on dozens of empty homes

NEARLY 60 social housing properties in Stafford and Cannock are empty – but all are being allocated for people to move in.

Cannock Chase Council says 42 out of its current stock of 5,158 homes are vacant.

Stafford and Rural Homes, which took over Stafford Borough Council's housing stock, has seven empty homes out of around 6,000. In the borough, there 2,257 people on the home waiting list.

Both groups say the vacant properties are in the process of being let out.

In total, there are 1,090 empty homes in Cannock, with 324 vacant for more than six months, according to latest figures from the Department of Local Government and Communities (DLGC).

And in Stafford, there are 1,915 with 653 empty for more than six months.

A spokesman for Cannock Chase Council said: "The number of properties void varies on a daily basis. Voids are advertised via the council's choice-based lettings system and re-let to new tenants following any necessary repairs."

Stafford and Rural Homes has said it is now aiming to build 250 extra homes by 2021. It has so far built 429 of the 600 homes originally planned, but now has plans for 421 more by 2021.

South Staffordshire Housing Association says 14 of the 6,138 homes it manages are vacant. A spokesman said: "All 14 vacant homes are allocated and will be let within the next few days." In the borough, there are a total of 1,042 vacant homes according to the DLGC, with 311 empty for more than six months.

Councillor Robert McCardle, cabinet member for planning and business enterprise at South Staffordshire Council, said: "We plan to undertake a comprehensive review of the district's empty properties and carry out an options appraisal."

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Council is all art as £134k shared out for projects

FOUR public art projects planned for Lichfield have scooped £134,000 of funding.

The money has been awarded by Lichfield District Council in partnership with Swinfen Broun Charitable Trust.

Towards the end of last year, officials teamed up to launch the Lichfield City Art Fund, designed to re-invest the proceeds of the sale of the statue Donna Che Trattiene il Tempo into new art projects.



'Old Father Time'

The philanthropist Swinfen Broun had bequeathed the statue, known locally as Old Father Time, to the people of Lichfield.

However, after a permanent home for the statue could not be found, the council auctioned it off in 2008 with the intention of using the money on new art projects.

After considering all the applications received, four applicants have been successful in bidding for a share of the money.

Successful applicants have included Lichfield Cathedral's project to create a bronze sculpture of St Chad, which has been awarded £50,000.

St Mary's in the Market Square has been awarded £44,979 to create a performance space for community groups.

Erasmus Darwin House will receive £25,050 to create a sculpture based on the work of Erasmus Darwin as well as a project to help the local community create smaller sculptures.

Lichfield Festival's Puppet Parade project has been awarded £13,752.

Police cadets welcomed to the force



Dignitaries including Emma Barnett, Assistant Chief Constable of Staffordshire Police, at the ceremony

NEW police cadets from Staffordshire have been officially sworn in at a special graduation ceremony.

The event saw 24 cadets and five leaders take the oath, taking the county-wide total of cadets to 287.

It was hosted by Staffordshire cadet ambassadors, and Deputy Lieutenant of Staffordshire Pippa Gee, who welcomed Katie Williams to the position of police cadet for the Lord Lieutenant of Stafford-

shire for the coming year. Assistant Chief Constable of Staffordshire Police Emma Barnett said: "I was proud to be there and to welcome these young people into the policing family."

"It's encouraging to see so many - they're all here because they want to make a difference."

"What they learn will make them better citizens and a credit to their families and to society."

Space prepares for lift-off

SPACE returns to Staffordshire this summer - with the promise of more activities, for a broader range of youngsters.

New for this year is the lowering of the age band for certain activities, from 11 to eight-years-old.

The nine district and borough councils within the county have already signed up for Space 2018, with preparations under way behind the scenes.

And with the World Cup being held this summer, Space 2018 also hopes to have a few football-related treats in store.

Full details of activities and events will be rolled

out during the build-up to the summer holidays. Space 2018 is also being extended in certain areas to include the autumn term holiday period.

The scheme attracted more than 18,000 attendees across the summer holidays in 2017 - an increase of 5,669 from the previous 12 months.

Statistics showed a drop in police-reported youth-related anti-social behaviour throughout the force during the period when Space was in operation, with a 38 per cent drop in incidents between mid-July and early-September 2017, compared with the same period 12 months earlier.

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We are working hard to fulfil dream – head

“KINGSMEAD is like a sleeping giant and the leadership team and I want to wake it up” – those are the words of Maria Mincher, who took over the reins of the Hednesford school in September.

Since then she has improved standards of ‘academic rigour, uniform and behaviour’, and has been praised by Ofsted for bringing ‘energy and ambition’ to Kingsmead.

Although the school was rated as ‘requires improvement’ overall, many areas were considered ‘good’ by the inspectors, who also noted the rapid improvements already made in a short amount of time.

Now the new head and her team are working to keep turning around Kingsmead’s fortunes with the support of pupils and parents. “Kingsmead really is an incredible school,” she said.

Challenged

“There is a massive family feel that permeates through the whole school, and the staff are the most caring I have ever met. When I started, the school was in a time warp and hadn’t moved with the times. The ‘good’ wasn’t showing through in the day-to-day work in the classroom.

“It was clear to me the areas I needed to improve. This included ensuring the children were challenged in the classroom and raising the levels of academic excellence.”

Mrs Mincher, who was previously vice-principal at Ormiston Forge Academy, added: “The staff have really embraced this and are hungry for change.” Changes made so far include the recruitment of extra teaching staff for maths, science, computer science, PE and languages.



Fresh start – Kingsmead headteacher Maria Mincher with students, left, Frankie Cooper, Alfie McCormick and Alyssa Spindler

2,270 opt for Help to Buy

THOUSANDS of families in Staffordshire have been helped onto the housing ladder by the Government’s Help to Buy scheme, new figures show.

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) says that a total of 2,270 homebuyers in the county used the scheme since it was launched nearly five years ago. Districts which made the best use of the scheme include Cannock Chase with 477 and East Staffordshire with 466.

Of the total number of homebuyers

that benefited from the scheme, 1,793 were first-time buyers. Steve Barton, senior sales manager at David Wilson Homes Mercia, based in Stafford, said: “Help to Buy has proved so helpful to so many homebuyers.”

Help to Buy allows any homebuyer to secure a brand new home under the value of £600,000 with a five per cent deposit. The Government lends the buyer 20 per cent of the value of the property in the form of an interest-free equity loan for five years.

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"Every day I come in to school I know I am safe and no one will make me feel scared or uncomfortable in any way."

"I am proud to call myself a QM girl."

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 26th April 2018 7 - 9 pm

OPEN MORNINGS

11 - 12:15 pm

24th April, 1st May and 11th, 13th & 20th June 2018

Deadline for applications to sit the entrance test: Friday 6th July 2018

ENTRANCE TEST Monday 17th September 2018



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One parent says: "I am so glad I sent my child to QM, she has learnt brilliant moral values and grown a lot as a person."

Another adds: "QMHS has been fantastic for my daughter. I think the balance between work/results and developing the whole person is perfect."

Flourished

In addition, a parent explains: "There is a lovely warm atmosphere in the school and it makes me feel proud every time I go to see my daughter there."

A final endorsement: "My child has been happy and flourished both in her education, social skills and confidence."

At Queen Mary's High School, we take the individual needs of our students very seriously, both in their academic work and also in a variety of other ways. Lessons are designed to ensure that each student is challenged



Lessons are devised so that each student is challenged at the appropriate level

at the appropriate level as well as to provide opportunities for developing teamwork, leadership, co-operation, listening and a variety of other skills.

The key element for success is enjoyment and you see plenty of that here at Queen Mary's High School. The move to secondary school is

a pivotal one in the life of any young person and choosing the right school can be challenging.

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EASTBOURNE



5 Days	Monday 21 May	£169
5 Days	Monday 11th June 2018	£249.00
5 Days	Monday 3rd September 2018	£249.00
5 Days	Monday 29th October 2018	£220.00
4 Days	Friday 7th December 2018*	£179.00

(Turkey & Tinsel) *1 excursion only on this date to Worthing.

INCLUDED:

- Coach Travel
- 4/6 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal at the Trouville Hotel, Sandown
- Visit to Rosemary's Vineyard
- Visit to Ryde
- Island Tour

ISLE OF WIGHT Sandown



7 Days	Saturday 21st July 2018	£459.00
5 Days	Monday 22nd October 2018	£279.00

INCLUDED:

- Coach Travel
- 4 Nights Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal
- Visit to Caernarfon & Beaumaris
- Visit to Bangor

LLANDUDNO



5 Days	Monday 4th June 2018	£239.00
5 Days	Monday 20th August 2018	£259.00
5 Days	Monday 24th September 2018	£249.00
5 Days	Monday 5th November 2018	£199.00

(Turkey & Tinsel)

DAY TRIPS

May

Wednesday 2nd	Ludlow NEW!	£21.00
Sunday 6th	Llandudno - Victorian Extravaganza	£22.00
Monday 7th	Llandudno - Victorian Extravaganza (Bank Holiday)	£22.00
Wednesday 9th	Lancashire Shopping with Fish & Chip Lunch	£34.00
Thursday 10th	The National Stud Tour at Newmarket Racecourse NEW!	£53.50
Sunday 13th	Althorp Food Festival NEW!	£39.50
Sunday 13th	RHS Malvern Spring Festival	£37.50
Monday 14th	Bakewell & Canal Cruise NEW!	£39.00
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- Visit to Newport
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5 Days	Monday 27th August 2018	£229.00
5 Days	Monday 24th September 2018	£199.00

TORQUAY



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- Visit to Donkey Sanctuary & Sidmouth

5 Days	Monday 28th May 2018	£199.00
5 Days	Monday 10th September 2018	£220.00

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- Visit to Dorchester
- Visit to Portland Bill

5 Days	Monday 11th June 2018	£249.00
7 days	Sat 28th July	£399.00

PICK UP POINTS LICHFIELD. STAFFORD. CANNOCK & WALSALL www.happvdavscouches.co.uk

Runners set to race to £1million goal



James Millington is raising money for Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust's Tunnel Vision appeal

VOLUNTEERS are donning their trainers to take the necessary steps to raise one million pounds for a canal restoration project.

Five runners will be taking part in the Lichfield 10k on September 9 on behalf of Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust's (LHCRT) £1 million Tunnel Vision appeal, set up to pay for an essential canal tunnel under the Cross City railway

line. The LHCRT team features James Millington, who has been cross country running for 25 years and competing in triathlons for the last seven years.

He said: "I want to see the whole canal restored because it's an important wildlife corridor and this is a vital part." So far, the trust has £400,000 from various fundraising efforts. To sponsor James visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/james-millington3

Wildlife trust buys birds site

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust aims to protect and encourage upland wading birds to breed for years to come after buying a 30-acre site near its Roaches and Black Brook nature reserves.

The charity has completed the purchase of Black Brook Pastures, near Leek, thanks to a £57,300 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund; a legacy left to the trust, which has its headquarters at Wolseley Bridge; and donations from members of the public.

The land is important because it provides an ideal habitat for upland wading birds such as snipe, curlew and lapwing – whose numbers have plummeted locally since 1985.

Almost half of the £108,000 total to complete the purchase was raised through the legacy. James Denison, fundraising manager for Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, said: "When we heard the land at Black Brook Pastures was available to purchase, we were interested straight away."

"It gives us an ideal opportunity to work on a scale which is more joined up across our existing Roaches and Black Brook nature reserves."

"Our vision for Black Brook Pastures is it to become a breeding site for upland waders. We hope that under our care, with the right management, we will see these species establish breeding populations, allowing us to support the effort to bring endangered birds back from localised extinction."

Nine out of 10 children get first-choice primary school

NINE out of 10 children in Staffordshire have been allocated their first choice primary school, the county council has announced.

Out of 9,052 applications for a school place in the county, 8,497 parents have been allocated their first-choice primary school. Nearly 99 per cent have been allocated one of their top three preferred places.

Demand for school places has risen nationally due to rising birth rates and new housing developments.

In Staffordshire, the county council has made plans to add another 7,900 primary and secondary school places within the next five years, at an estimated cost of £151 million.

This will be a combination of building new schools, and working with headteachers and governors on expanding existing schools where possible.

Funding for these schools will be met by the county council, developer contributions, and the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Councillor Philip White, cabinet support member for learning and employability, said: "Over the past four years, we have been looking at projected rises in pupil numbers over the next 15 years and formed a comprehensive county-wide plan to ensure there are enough primary and secondary school places available across the county."

"By mapping where new housing developments are, as well as where the birth rate is increasing, we can confidently predict where the demand will be and put measures in place."

"In Burton for example, planned housing developments and an increasing birth rate mean a considerable number of new secondary school places will be needed over the next 15 years. Construction is nearly complete on the new £30million high school in Tatenhill, which will accommodate 1,440 pupils and is due to open in September."

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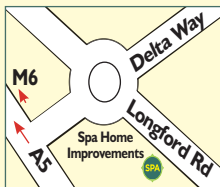
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WALKING football sessions for women are starting up at Burntwood Leisure Centre next week.

Walking football is a slowed down version of the game, designed for anyone looking to exercise in a relaxed, supportive and friendly environment.

The weekly sessions at Burntwood, which have been organised by Active Lichfield, are aimed at women over the age of 50 of all abilities, and include a gentle warm-up.

Tasmin Turner, sports development officer for Lichfield District Council, said: "Walking football is growing in popularity, and so we're delighted to be launching this additional weekly session."

Qualified

"There's no advantage to being quick on the pitch, which is a great leveller, making the game fair and great fun for all."

A fully qualified walking football coach will be delivering the sessions on Burntwood Leisure Centre's 3G synthetic football pitch.

The sessions will run weekly, starting on Wednesday, April 25, between 5pm and 6pm. The cost is £2.50 a session.

To find out about other sessions which are aimed at the over-50s go to www.activelichfield.co.uk

FOCUS ON BURNTWOOD

£3m 'independent living' scheme gets green light

A MULTI-MILLION pound development giving adults with disabilities the opportunity to live independently has got the green light.

The £3.1 million proposal for 27 new homes in Cannock Road, Burntwood, was approved by Lichfield District Council after Staffordshire County Council identified the need for this type of accommodation in the area.

By Charlotte Callear

The new MyPlace supported housing development will be built on vacant land just off the high street.

Wolverhampton-based social housing provider Bromford is behind the project, which will have 14 self-contained one-bedroom flats, and 13 two and three-bedroom homes for affordable rent, taking the total number of new homes to 27.

The MyPlace scheme aims to give adults with learning disabilities the opportunity to live in their own home and includes a communal hub, kitchen area, site office, car parking and landscaped gardens.

Bromford's new business manager Josie Bishton said: "We are delighted that council members and officers have regarded this as a much-needed development and have granted us permis-

sion to proceed with what is a multi-million pound investment in the local area.

"As the main housing provider in the Lichfield district, this is an area we know well and where we are really keen to invest in."

"This 27-home development will not only provide affordable housing for local people but also give vulnerable people the opportunity to live in a safe and secure environment where they can take control of their own life, reduce their dependency and ultimately live more independently."

Ward councillor Susan Woodward said: "It is clearly proven there is a need for this accommodation in Burntwood and it is ideal because it is near to the town centre."



An artist's impression of the £3.1 million development at Cannock Road, Burntwood

Have your say on the area Plan

BURNTWOOD Town Council is in the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Covering the parish of Burntwood, it will incorporate the Vision for Burntwood, as proposed by the Burntwood Action Group.

John Brown, interim town clerk at Burntwood Town Council, said: "Neighbourhood planning is designed to provide a powerful set of tools to ensure that we get the right types of development in the right place for our community."

There will be a public consultation event on Saturday, May 12 at Burntwood Library and the Old Mining College Centre, in Queen Street, Chasetown from 10am until 2pm.

Councillor Richard Mosson, chairman of the town council's neighbourhood plan committee, said: "I would encourage you to visit one of the events as this is your chance to have your say regarding the future of Burntwood."

Tesla story to be told at Garrick

THE story of the world's smartest man – according to Einstein – is coming to Lichfield next weekend.

The Outbound Project is bringing the story of Nikola Tesla to the Garrick on Saturday, April 28 in a show titled 12 Million Volts. Tesla was an engineer known for designing the AC electric system.

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387 Vets focusing on keeping up with the latest vaccinations

Commercial feature

For National Pet Month, 387 Vets is encouraging pet owners to keep on track with vaccinations to make sure cats and dogs are fully protected against important diseases that could threaten their lives.

Because many cats and dogs haven't had a vaccine for several years and are therefore at risk of contracting dangerous diseases, the Great Wyrley practice is offering a full course of two injections to adult dogs and cats with lapsed vaccinations for the price of a single booster.

Cats and dogs love to explore and can come into contact with infectious diseases on their travels. Thankfully, vaccination is an effective way of protecting against many of these illnesses. 387 Vets hopes to raise pet owner awareness about the importance of vaccination this April, to save pet lives. Best pet care is an all-year round priority for the small animal practice where the team strive to constantly go the extra mile. This was recognised when they scooped the much-coveted Practice of the Year award at the Petplan Veterinary Awards in 2017.

"It's the people that make the practice special," says Clinical Director Hamish Duncan. "We're really proud to have such a talented team. Three vets have extra postgraduate qualifications. Emma's is in feline practice so she heads up our cat friendly clinic appointments. Carole has a Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice and also offers a pet acupuncture service.

"And I'm one of only 150 vets in the UK with Advanced Practitioner status in dog



The team, on hand to ensure owners keep up with vaccinations for their pet



387 Veterinary Centre in Walsall Road

and cat medicine. And our newest vet, Selenia, was in charge of a dental referral service before starting at 387 Vets. We're lucky to work alongside and be supported by an exceptional nursing team of five fully qualified nurses. Coming here, you know your pet is getting dedicated, experienced professional care."

Supporting pet owners is equally important to the 12-strong team. All have received bereavement training and, in 2017, 387 Veterinary Centre received an 'Outstanding in Client Service' Award from

the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. In addition, receptionist Joanne Civil was hailed as Petplan Practice Support Staff of the Year 2017, a customer service award-winner in her own right.

"We're passionate about taking time to get to know pets and owners, about being approachable, driving standards, really listening and treating and charging honestly. That 70 per cent of all new clients come from personal recommendations means a lot to us all.

"If you don't feel you are and your pets are getting the service you deserve where you are, why not join our client family and come and experience 387 Vets for yourself."

Visit www.387vets.com to watch a video about 387 Veterinary Centre and to find out more about the practice. Or call the centre on 01922 411755 to register your pet.

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PET MONTH
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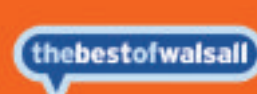
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One-off performance for Amazon workers



Staffordshire singer Nath Brooks at Amazon

MUSIC was in the air at Amazon's fulfilment centre in Rugeley as the team welcomed a special guest performance from Staffordshire singer Nath Brooks.

Performing a set of his own original songs, Nath thanked the team at Amazon for their £1,000 donation to Make Some Noise, a Staffordshire-based music charity.

Nathan Fetherston, general manager at Amazon Rugeley, said: "A huge thank you to Nath Brooks for his fantastic performance at Amazon Rugeley and continued support for Make Some Noise."

"We are grateful for the positive impact that the charity has on our community and their incredible work to ensure that music is a part of every young person's life."

Following his performance, Nath Brooks said: "I was honoured to come and perform for the team. Make Some Noise is a charity very close to my heart. I know first-hand the importance of having music in your life, and I wanted to show my appreciation for Amazon's support."

Burns man is backing fire safety campaign

A MAN who suffered burns to his arms, face and hands when trying to tackle a fire in his home is urging others not to do the same.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service's Get Out Stay Out campaign aims to remind the community of the dangers of tackling a fire, attempting to gather belongings or re-entering a building on fire.

It also highlights the importance of leaving the property as soon as possible and waiting for the fire crews to arrive. Michael, whose name has been changed to protect his identity, was at his home in Perton in January, when he smelled burning while preparing food.

He went to check on a pan of oil which had been switched on only minutes earlier and as he lifted the lid, the influx of oxygen ignited the hot oil and it burst into flames.

His first thought was to put something on the fire to dampen it down but he could not see anything suitable to use, so in a state of panic he attempted to take the pan out of the back door.

Before he had a chance to put down the pan, which he

By Dayna Farrington

describes as a 'spitting fireball', a large spot of burning oil splattered onto his wrist and hand, which caused him to spill oil on the floor, and as he tried to return to the kitchen he slipped in the oil, fell backwards and spilled the contents of the pan over his face, neck and hands.

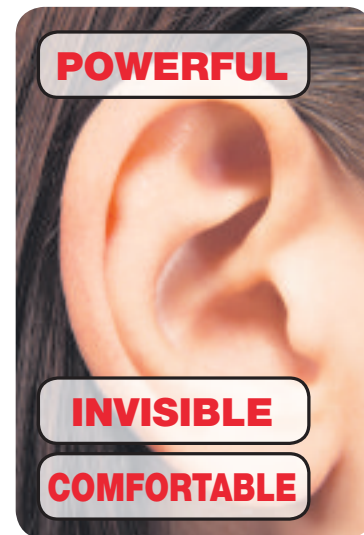
He said: "I spent seven days in Queen Elizabeth Hospital and had a skin graft on my right hand, which I'm still having physiotherapy on to regain functionality."

"When I heard about the fire service's campaign I wanted to support it by telling my story to help show how wrong things can go if you try to tackle a fire yourself," he added.

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Phil's got nowhere to Hyde in new role

A twisted, nerve-jangling tale of horror will play out at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre when Phil Daniels stars in the gothic thriller *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.

The age-old tale by Robert Louis Stevenson focuses on one of the kind and gifted Dr Jekyll's most audacious experiments, in which he tries to separate good from evil.

Inadvertently, Jekyll unleashes an alternative personality of pure evil... the mysterious Mr Hyde. And as the sinister figure starts causing terror and havoc in foggy London, Jekyll must race to find a cure for his monstrous alter-ego before it takes over for good.

The new production will feature at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from May 1-5 and stars Phil Daniels, whose extensive and varied credits include Jimmy Cooper in *Quadrophenia*, Richards in *Scum* and Kevin Wicks in *EastEnders*.

Phil has worked with the RSC and NT and appeared on stage in productions as diverse as *Les Miserables* and *This House*.

We caught up with the star to find out what made him take on the role of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

How would you describe this version on the classic story?

"It's set in Victorian London so it's traditional in that respect and it's quite close in many respects to the book as well, but it delves into Dr Jekyll's personal life a bit more. There are more female characters in it, like his sister, and it explores how his father - who started the experiment which Dr Jekyll continues - was never very nice to him in his lifetime."

What's your take on the dual characters of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde?

"When I first spoke to Jenny King [the show's producer and creator of the Touring Consortium Theatre Company] about Jekyll and Hyde I was interested in the way sometimes when people have a drink they become different people. You know, they can be as good as gold one day but as soon as they've had a drink they become snarling animals. I was interested in that and approaching the characters from a point of view that, even though there is a liquid that Jekyll does take that turns him into this monster or which exposes the darker side of his personality, that darker side is in him already. He just releases it."

What are the challenges for you as an actor?

"It's about making it as real as possible - that there are two aspects of his personality and not just a crazed animal that's come out of nowhere. It's about finding out why Dr Jekyll is also Edward Hyde. What I don't want to do is make Hyde just evil, I want the audience to make their own mind up about who's the worst out of the two of them or who's the best, which facets of each character they like or appreciate and which facets they don't. That's the challenge - to make them both credible people. One might be a villain and one might commit a murder but it's because of the other one's personality that he does it."

Why do you feel theatre audiences love a good stage thriller?

"If there's a story that captures your imagination and has a beginning, a middle and an end, where something might happen

Double trouble - Phil Daniels in *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*



or might not happen, it's quite thrilling. The Jekyll and Hyde story is just one of those stories that's always caught people's imaginations. I don't know how many pages the book is; I think it's only about 60 pages long, it's very slim. It's a tiny book that has led to an industry of people making films, musicals, plays, other books, writing about it and analysing it. It's very popular and understandably so."

What twists does David Edgar's play spin on the well-known story?

"He gets at the heart of the story. He tries to give a reason for Jekyll and Hyde's breakdown, where Jekyll's father gives him no credit but he gives the daughter credit instead. There's a secret in the past between the sister and the brother that's quite violent so it's not just Hyde who's the violent one, there's something violent in Jekyll as well. That's what's interesting about Edgar's script; he gets deep into that. Plus with characters like Lanyon and Utterson there's a debate going on within the play about Victorian England, how the poor are being treated and whether it's because of society that people do bad things or because of the binary system of our personalities."

Have you done any research into the Victorian era? If so, what have you been most interested to learn?

"It's interesting that medicine was at a stage where they started to think anything was possible. Great leaps forward were happening and to be involved in that as a doctor would have been something someone like Dr Jekyll would have relished. I think part of his motivation for continuing these experiments and to write papers about them is to gain notoriety in medical circles. Maybe he's just an ordinary doctor who is trying to push his way into being famous."

You've had such a long and varied career. Which roles are you most recognised for?

"Mainly it's because of *Quadrophenia*, which has become a cult film over the years. I get a little bit of *EastEnders* but not so much. [Laughs] It depends on which supermarket you go to; it happens more in Lidl than Marks and Spencer's but there you go."

With a role like this do you enjoy disappearing into a character?

"It's quite a leap for me because I'm playing Jekyll as a posh Edinburgh doctor and Hyde as a Glaswegian. I'm burying myself in all that, but it's enjoyable getting deep into characters. You have to put the work in. [Laughs] Although I don't get deep enough to go around murdering people, of course."

Are you more Jekyll or Hyde? Or a bit of both?

"I think there's a little bit of me in both of them. There's a bit of snobbery in Hyde and a bit of swagger in Jekyll but also a bit of swagger in Hyde too. It's the same with all of us I suppose."

And finally, you'll play Wolverhampton Grand at the start of May. Does it have any significance for you?

"All of Blur's road crew are from Wolverhampton and because of my association with the band hopefully some of those boys will come see the show."

ANDY RICHARDSON

● For more entertainment news and reviews see *The Ticket* in your Express & Star every Friday.

Isaac Gracie – debut album



Singer-songwriter Isaac is not Terrified any more

RISING star Isaac Gracie released his self-titled debut album last week and will be playing songs from it at Birmingham's O2 Institute tomorrow (Friday).

The singer-songwriter's mellow music has caused a stir and attracted growing attention with the singles Terrified and The Death of You & I.

With a voice apparently mature beyond his years, the 23-year-old former University of East Anglia creative writing student has been mentioned in the same breath as several greats. Having uploaded a demo version of his breakthrough song Last Words, he found it daunting to find his name placed alongside such music heroes as Jeff Buckley and Bob Dylan.

"I was like 'I'm no good! I can't write a song! You've

got me wrong! It's difficult with that gaze because they want integrity, they want truth, they want honesty – but they also want a big old smash hit," he says.

"At that time of writing songs, it was purely to try and do justice to the things I was feeling."

Then he took time out of the spotlight to explore new musical territory and learn to interact with a full band. The result is his debut album. He says: "I feel, at this point, really ready to put out the record, ready to live by it and ready to learn from it. Then I'll go forward."

The pick of the gigs also includes: Saturday, Bolan boogie with T Rextasy, Bilston's Robin 2; Monday, Barenaked Ladies back with their 15th album Fake Nudes, O2 Institute; Wednesday, hard rockers Of Mice & Men, O2 Institute.

Express jazz from acclaimed guitarist



JAZZ guitarist Remi Harris, whose celebrity fans and collaborators include Jamie Cullum, will be performing at the Pizza Express in Brindley Place, Birmingham, tomorrow night (Friday).

Remi, pictured, has more than 40 dates booked with his jazz and blues trio travelling more than 6,000 miles in three months.

Remi's unique style draws inspiration from gypsy swing, blues, rock and world music. He has toured worldwide and performed on the Chris Evans Radio 2 breakfast

show with Jamie Cullum, and has appeared at the Montreal Jazz Festival, the BBC Proms and on Radio 3. Jamie Cullum, who hosts his own jazz show on Radio 2, said, "Remi Harris is an incredible guitarist, I'm absolutely blown away by his talent."

Herefordshire-born Remi, 30, said, "I'm really looking forward to performing in Birmingham again, it has a rich history of great music and I always enjoy playing there. We've been working on new material and we're excited to be on the road again."

From the day he was born his mother, of French origin, chose the

name Remi, inspired by the musical scale Do-Re-Mi. He called his first album 'Ninick' in memory of his mother.

Primarily self taught, Remi started playing at the age of seven, initially inspired by rock and blues guitarists such as Jimi Hendrix, Peter Green and Jimmy Page. In his late teens he developed an interest in jazz music, in particular artists such as Django Reinhardt and Wes Montgomery.

To book tickets contact www.remi-harris.co.uk or call Pizza Express on 0207 4394962 and ask for the Birmingham show.

Magnum marking 50 years in music

British hard rock legends Magnum will perform at Birmingham Symphony Hall on Thursday as part of their Eternity World Tour. The rearranged show coincides with the release of their new album *Lost on the Road to Eternity*. Fronted by founders Bob Catley and Tony Clarkin, pictured, Magnum have become stalwarts of the classic rock scene in the UK over 50 years. The current five-piece line-up includes Rick Benton (keyboards), bassist Al Barrow and drummer Lee Morris.



Drag, disco, dance, comedy and science

Three men from West Bromwich Operatic Society will be putting on the flamboyant make up and outrageous frocks when the company brings disco hit-packed musical *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday. Based on the hit movie, the stage show follows the adventures of a troupe of drag queens across the Aussie Outback in an often hilarious and sometimes poignant road trip.

Strictly Come Dancing's Aljaz and Janette will be Remember Fred (Astaire) at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Saturday. That's the same night comedian Robin Ince, who co-presents BBC Radio 4's Infinite Monkey Cage science chat with Professor Brian Cox, brings his Pragmatic Insanity solo show to Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre.

ENTERTAINMENT

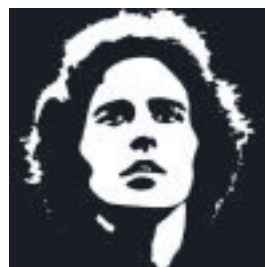
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CHOICE



Queen Elizabeth II

The Queen's Birthday Party (BBC1, 8pm)
A concert in celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's 92nd birthday, live from the Royal Albert Hall, featuring performances from acts from across the world and stars from around the Commonwealth. Tom Jones, Kylie Minogue, Craig David, Anne Marie, Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Sting & Shaggy are among those taking part.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Hairys Bikers' Asian Adventure. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News. **1.15** The London Marathon: My Reason to Run. **1.45** Live Snooker: The World Championship. Coverage of two first-round matches involving Kyren Wilson and Ronnie O'Sullivan. **4.35** BBC News. **4.45** Regional Programme. **4.55** Match of the Day Live: The FA Cup. Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur (Kick-off at 5.15pm). **7.15** **Pointless Celebrities.** Diane Louise Jordan, the Rev Richard Coles, Nancy Dell'Olio, Matt Barbet, Sharon Davies, Mark Foster, Gyles Brandreth and Susan Calman all take part in the unorthodox quiz show. (R) **8.00** **The Queen's Birthday Party.** A concert in celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's 92nd birthday, live from the Royal Albert Hall, featuring performances from acts from across the world and stars from around the Commonwealth. Tom Jones, Kylie Minogue, Craig David, Anne Marie, Shawn Mendes, Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Sting & Shaggy are among those taking part. **9.40** **Mrs Brown's Boys.** Dermot's pre-marriage nerves get the better of him, so he locks himself away in a cupboard. (R) **10.10** **BBC News:** Weather; National Lottery Update. **10.30** **Match of the Day.** Highlights of Saturday's two Premier League fixtures – Watford v Crystal Palace, and West Bromwich Albion v Liverpool. **11.00** **MOTD: FA Cup Semi-Final Highlights.** Dan Walker presents highlights of Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur in the opening semi-final of this year's competition at Wembley Stadium. **11.20** **The Button.** Game show set simultaneously in the houses of five UK families, whose members compete to win challenges determined by The Button in the comfort of their living rooms. (R) **11.50** **Film: The Recruit.** (2003) A hacker is recruited into the CIA and is given a top-secret assignment to root out a mole within the agency's training programme. Thriller, starring Al Pacino and Colin Farrell. **1.40** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.45** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** The Dengineers. **8.00** Absolute Genius: Monster Builds. **8.30** Beyond Bionic. **9.00** Robot Wars. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.00** Wanted Down Under. (R) **12.30** Trust Me, I'm a Doctor. (R) **1.30** Britain's Biggest Warship. (R) **2.30** Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge. (R) **3.30** Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge. (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **6.00** **Antiques Road Trip.** In Liverpool, Natasha Raskin Sharp hopes for a big hit with a Sgt Pepper-style military jacket, while Charles Hanson finds two maritime-themed stained glass panels. (R) **7.00** **Live Snooker: The World Championship.** Jason Mohammad presents coverage of the concluding session on the opening day of the ranking tournament at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first-round match involving Mark Selby is scheduled to conclude, and Ali Carter begins his campaign. Selby is given the honour of being involved in the first fixture of the tournament in his role as reigning champion, and the world number one is aiming to win the title for the fourth time in the last five years. **8.00** **The Forest.** An engineering team is called out to repair a 6-ton logging machine, while the owner of Balloch O'Dee campsite prepares to stage a comedy night. Mark Bonnar narrates. **8.30** **Dad's Army.** The vicar and the verger enlist in the Home Guard, but their over-enthusiastic man-management brings the wrath of Warden Hodges down upon the platoon. (R) **9.00** **Imagine – Habaneros: You Say You Want a Revolution? Part One.** Part one of two. Documentary exploring the lives of Havana residents in the wake of Raul Castro stepping down as president of Cuba, leaving the country facing an uncertain future. **10.00** **Film: Testament of Youth.** (2014) A young woman gives up her place at Oxford University to be a nurse during the First World War. Period drama, starring Alicia Vikander. **12.00** Snooker: The World Championship. **12.50** Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.50** Civilisations. (R) **3.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.25** The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.45** Adventure Time. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Film: Nanny McPhee. (2005) **1.20** ITV News: Weather. **1.30** (TV Racing: Live from Ayr. Including the Coral Scottish Grand National Handicap Steeple Chase at 4.05. **4.30** You've Been Framed! (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R) **6.00** ITV News: Weather. **6.15** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.30** **Ninja Warrior UK.** A special celebrity edition of the obstacle-course challenge, with contestants including former Olympic athlete Katharine Merry and Kenzie from Blazin' Squad testing their strength, speed and courage. Those who make it to the end of the adrenaline-fueled mission face one final task – scaling the heights of a tower named Mount Midoriyama. Hosted by Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Karama. **7.30** **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** Madcap panel show presented by the comedian, who presides over two teams nominally tasked with saving planet Earth from any potential alien invasion. **8.00** **Britain's Got Talent.** Ant and Dec host the nationwide talent search, which sees a wide variety of acts, from comedians to contortionists, singers to spoon players, compete to impress judges Simon Cowell, Amanda Holden, Alesha Dixon and David Walliams and win a huge cash prize and a coveted slot at the Royal Variety Performance. **9.20** **The Keith & Paddy Picture Show.** Keith Lemon and Paddy McGuinness recreate Top Gun, with a little help from Keith Allen, Sarah Parish and Marc Warren. **9.50** ITV News: Weather. **10.10** **Film: Private Benjamin.** (1980) A society widow enlists in the army in the hope of finding a new direction, but comes into conflict with her tough commanding officer. Comedy, with Goldie Hawn. **12.15** Change Your Tune. (R) **1.05** Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Mobil 1: The Grid. **6.40** Motor Sport: Volkswagen Racing Cup. **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** The King of Queens. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.20** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **9.55** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.35** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.35** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R) **6.30** **Channel 4 News.** **7.00** **The Restoration Man: Best Builds.** George Clarke chooses four of his favourite church conversions from the programme, featuring a couple who hoped their old fisherman's church in Devon would bring them together, and a young father whose single-minded dedication to restoring a medieval Welsh chapel almost tore his family apart. Plus, the restoration novices who risked financial ruin to transform a Cumbrian village church's iconic spire, and a couple from Newcastle who battled the elements to create a bohemian artistic retreat 400 miles away in the Outer Hebrides. (R) **8.00** **Britain's Most Historic Towns.** Alice Roberts explores the Norman period of British history in Winchester. She attempts to storm a castle wearing chain mail and investigates the origins of modern surgery. **9.00** **Film: Dirty Grandpa.** (2016) Premiere. An uptight lawyer, preparing to marry his boss's controlling daughter and secure a prestigious job is persuaded to drive his fun-loving grandfather to Florida. However, the old man is convinced his grandson is about to make a terrible mistake, and turns the road trip into a wildly hedonistic weekend in the hope of inspiring him to get more fun out of life. Comedy, starring Robert De Niro and Zac Efron. **11.00** **Film: Colombiana.** (2011) An orphan grows up to be an assassin while secretly plotting revenge on the gangsters who murdered her parents. Action thriller, starring Zoe Saldana and Cliff Curtis. **1.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **1.50** Hollywoods. (R) **4.00** Building the Dream. (R) **4.55** The Question Jury. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.25** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.10** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **4.05** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **5.05** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R) **6.00** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** High Court enforcement officers Paul, Steve and Ben make a shocking discovery when they break into a home in Essex while serving an eviction notice on a single mother and her two children. Meanwhile, Stewart and Iain receive more than just threats from the staff and owner of a taxi business, a car dealer has to choose between paying up or losing his showroom stars, and an Indian restaurant owner is in danger of losing his livelihood. (R) **7.00** **The Yorkshire Vet Casebook.** Julian Norton needs to act fast to save a cow with heart failure, a beagle goes through a difficult birth and a hamster arrives for a simple procedure that ends up proving tricky. **8.00** **The Dead Sea Treasure Map Mystery.** Cameras observe a team of archaeologists following clues from the Copper Scroll, a map that is thought to lead to a treasure haul estimated to be worth \$3billion. (R) **8.55** **5 News Weekend.** **9.00** **Football on 5: The Championship.** Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship, including Bolton Wanderers v Wolverhampton Wanderers and Cardiff City v Nottingham Forest. **10.00** **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including AFC Wimbledon v Oldham Athletic and Portsmouth v Charlton Athletic. **10.30** **World's Deadliest Weather: Caught on Camera.** Footage capturing the destruction and chaos caused by severe weather conditions, featuring first-hand accounts from those who have survived such events. (R) **11.30** **Criminals: Caught on Camera.** (R) **12.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Yorkshire Vet. (R) **4.00** Made in Yorkshire. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth **8.00** Wild Tales from the Village **9.00** Salamander: Blood Diamonds **10.35** Room 101 **11.05** Plunder: Spike Milligan **11.35** Spike Milligan: Assorted **12.35** Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth **1.35** Wild Tales from the Village **2.35** Room 101 **3.05** Plunder: Spike Milligan **3.35** Close
ITV2
11.25 Britain's Got More Talent **12.25** Ninja Warrior UK **1.30** Film: Liar Liar (1997) **2.30** FYI Daily **2.35** Film: Liar Liar (1997) **3.15** Film: Yogi Bear (2010) **4.15** FYI Daily **4.20** Film: Yogi Bear (2010) **4.55** Film: Casper (1995) **5.55** FYI Daily **6.00** Film: Casper (1995) **7.00** Film: The Mummy (1999) **8.00** FYI Daily **8.05** Film: The Mummy (1999) **9.20** Britain's Got More Talent **10.20** Celebrity Juice **11.10** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.30** The Cleveland Show **1.55** Plebs **2.20** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
11.00 A Touch of Frost **3.20** Film: Colombo: Fought Over (1975) **4.55** Midsummer Murders **11.05** Vera **1.05** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping
ITV4
1.50 Film: Bend of the River (1952) **2.50** FYI Daily **2.55** Film: Bend of the River (1952) **3.45** Film: Chisum (1970) **4.45** FYI Daily **4.50** Film: Chisum (1970) **6.05** Film: The Green Berets (1968) **7.05** FYI Daily **7.10** Film: The Green Berets (1968) **9.00** Film: Lethal Weapon 4 (1998) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10** Film: Lethal Weapon 4 (1998) **11.25** Film: Crank: High Voltage (2009) **12.25** FYI Daily **12.30** Film: Crank: High Voltage (2009) **1.30** Minder **2.25** The Protectors **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
11.30 The Goldbergs **2.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.30** Young Sheldon **3.00** Film: The Net (1995) **5.10** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Red 2 (2013) **11.10** Gogglebox **12.15** The Inbetweeners **1.25** Tattoo Fixers **2.30** Rude Tube **3.25** Gogglebox **4.20** How I Met Your Mother **5.05** Rude(ish) Tube
Film4
11.00 Support Your Local Sheriff! (1969) **1.00** Dante's Peak (1997) **3.05** The Book of Life (2014) **5.00** Shrek (2001) **6.45** Super 8 (2011) **9.00** Predestination (2014) **10.50** Sinister (2012) **1.00** Grave of the Fireflies (1988) **2.55** Close

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Departing Saturday 16 Jun

From Cannock & Stafford

Price Includes...

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- ✓ Free time in London



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Omega Holidays cannot be held responsible for the non-appearance of a particular actor/actress; no refunds will be given in this event. Whilst we always try to ensure that parties are seated together, very occasionally, it may be necessary for parties to be split. Couples are always seated together. Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices shown are per person, based on two people sharing a dbl/twin room. Single supplements apply.

CHOICE



Ben Hardy

The Woman in White (BBC1, 9pm)
New series. Adaptation of Wilkie Collins' novel, starring Ben Hardy as a teacher who has a startling encounter on Hampstead Heath with a woman who has escaped from a lunatic asylum. He later takes up a position as a drawing master in Cumbria, but as he falls in love with one of his pupils, he discovers a connection between her family and the strange woman's troubled past. With Charles Dance and Jessie Buckley.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **8.10** MOTD: FA Cup Semi-Final Highlights. (R) **8.30** London Marathon. **2.00** BBC News: Weather. **2.15** Regional Programme. **3.30** Songs of Praise. **4.05** B.O.B.'s Big Break. (R) **4.15** Film: Madagascar. (2005) Animated comedy, with the voice of Ben Stiller. **5.35** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.
6.00 **The Big Painting Challenge.** The seven remaining artists are challenged to show off their waterscape painting skills during a visit to Loch Lomond. Firstly, they must paint a boat on the water during a particularly windy day, before creating a panoramic view of the entire lake. They also receive a masterclass on mixing colours before local members of the public choose a favourite to go through to next week's semi-final.
7.00 **Countryfile.** Anita Rani visits Norfolk to meet people who are keeping traditional English crafts alive. She visits a restored wind pump in Horsey, joins a group of reed cutters on the Norfolk Broads, and meets a man who has made it his mission to restore all of the county's ancient milestones. Finally, she meets a craftsman who makes cricket bats by hand and puts one of his creations to the test.
8.00 **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents the show from Castle Howard in Yorkshire, where items brought in to be valued include a rare jade Buddha and a collection of First World War aviation paintings.
9.00 **The Woman in White.** New series. Adaptation of Wilkie Collins' novel, starring Ben Hardy as a teacher delving into the mysterious and troubled history of a woman who has escaped from an asylum.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman introduces highlights of Arsenal v West Ham United and Stoke City v Burnley.
11.30 **MOTD: FA Cup Semi-Final Highlights.** Reshmin Chowdhury presents highlights of Chelsea v Southampton in the second semi-final of this season's competition at Wembley Stadium.
12.00 The Women's Football Show.
12.35 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.40 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **6.35** Countryfile. (R) **7.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **8.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **2.00** London Marathon. Concluding live coverage of the 38th staging of the annual event. **2.30** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The first-round matches involving Shaun Murphy and Ali Carter.
6.00 **Nature's Biggest Beasts.** The world's biggest beasts have always captured people's imagination. But while being big can have its advantages, it also comes with sizeable challenges. From the Komodo dragon, whose huge appetite means it must take on prey 10 times its weight, to the giraffe, whose long neck must control immense blood pressure, nature's biggest beasts must go to extraordinary lengths to thrive. This film tells just some of these survival stories. (R)
7.00 **London Marathon Highlights.** JJ Chalmers presents action from the 38th staging of the annual event, which saw tens of thousands of runners take on the famous 26.2-mile course.
8.00 **Britain's Biggest Warship.** HMS Queen Elizabeth goes on dangerous sea trials for the first time in the North Sea, where every part of the vessel is put to the test and the first aircraft lands on the deck.
9.00 **My Year with the Tribe.** Will makes his second trip to Indonesia and meets some other members of the Korowai tribe, only to find their lives are not as traditional as they initially appear.
10.00 **Famalam.** Comedy sketch show.
10.25 **That's the Way, A-Ha, A-Ha, Joe Lycell.** A performance from the comedian's award-winning live show, recorded at the Duchess Theatre in London's West End.
11.25 **Snooker: The World Championship.** The evening session on day two at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, featuring the conclusion of first-round matches involving Kyren Wilson and Marco Fu. Jason Mohammad presents.
12.15 Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.15** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **3.15** Holby City. (R) **4.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.25** The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.45** Adventure Time. (R) **8.00** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Sunday. **9.25** Love Your Garden. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **10.55** Nine Warrior UK. (R) **11.55** ITV News: Weather. **12.05** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **1.25** Britain's Got More Talent. (R) **2.25** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **3.00** The Queen's Green Planet. (R) **4.00** Change Your Tune. **5.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R)
6.00 **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** Madcap panel show presented by the comedian, who presides over two teams nominally tasked with saving planet Earth from any potential alien invasion. (R)
6.30 **ITV News: Weather.**
6.45 **Regional Programme: Weather.**
7.00 **Little Big Shots.** New series. Dawn French hosts a variety show featuring some of the world's most talented children, including a singing trio and a young dog trainer.
8.00 **The Durrells.** The family plans a party to celebrate Gerry's birthday, but the occasion is invaded by a swarm of mosquitoes. Louisa worries when Spiros locks himself in a room to sing sad songs.
9.00 **The Good Karma Hospital.** Ruby and Gabriel intervene in a dispute between two fishermen, and Lydia's former mentor asks for her help. Guest starring Sue Johnston (The Royle Family). Last in the series.
10.05 **ITV News: Weather.**
10.20 **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, featuring reports on the latest issues and interviews with topical guests. (R)
11.20 **100 Year Old Driving School.** A 91-year-old former teacher attempts to prove she is a good driver. Last in the series. (R)
11.50 **This Time Next Year.** Davina McCall meets a 45-year-old man who wants to track down his long-lost half-sister and a grandmother who wants to learn to read. (R)
12.40 Jackpot247. **3.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Eat the Week. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** Film: Dr Seuss' The Lorax. (2012) Animated fantasy, with the voice of Danny DeVito. **4.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.35** Grand Designs. (R)
6.30 **Channel 4 News.**
7.00 **Escape to the Chateau.** Dick and Angel only have a few weeks to prepare for their wedding, but the chateau is nowhere near ready to receive the 200 guests they have invited and finding reliable, affordable workers is proving difficult. Dick oversees the damming of the moat and the installation of a new, eco-friendly sewage system, while Angel turns her attention to giving the rooms a distinctive decor. Last in the series. (R)
8.00 **The Crystal Maze.** Richard Ayoade guides a team of people who met while doing jury service together through the Aztec, Medieval, Industrial and Future zones of the Maze, tackling a range of skill, mystery, physical and mental challenges before the final journey to the Crystal Dome.
9.00 **Homeland.** Carrie is forced to choose a side, Keane needs an ally and Saul comes up with an idea. Espionage drama, starring Claire Danes, Mandy Patinkin, Elizabeth Marvel and Linus Roache.
10.15 **Gogglebox.** Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)
11.10 **Film: Easy A.** (2010) Misfit teenager Olive lies about her non-existent sexual history, and uses the resulting rumours to become the talk of the school. Teen comedy, starring Emma Stone and Penn Badgley.
12.50 **Film: Kahaani 2.** (2016) Premiere. Crime thriller, starring Vidya Balan. **3.00** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **3.25** Mobil 1: The Grid. (R) **3.50** Come Dine Champion of Champions. A plumber, a lettings agent and a local communications officer battle it out. (R) **4.45** Building the Dream. (R) **5.40** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Moly. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.35** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.45** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.25** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.40** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.20** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** Britain's Greatest Brides. (R) **12.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.15** Film: Dances with Wolves. (1990) Oscar-winning Western, starring Kevin Costner. **5.45** Film: Pearl Harbor. (2001) Romantic Second World War drama, with Ben Affleck and Kate Beckinsale.
6.45 **5 News Update.**
6.50 **Film: Pearl Harbor.** (2001) Concluded.
8.55 **5 News Weekend.**
9.00 **Diana to Meghan: Royal Wedding Secrets.** A behind the scenes look at how previous royal weddings, to reveal how these lavish events are organised. Kiri Te Kanawa shares her memories of performing at the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, while florists, dressmakers, tailors, ring-makers, security guards, vicars and servants all provide the inside scoop on their role in the big day.
10.00 **Film: The Big Wedding.** (2013) Premiere. A divorced couple attend their adopted son's wedding, and pretend to still be married to avoid shocking his birth mother. Comedy, with Robert De Niro and Diane Keaton.
11.00 **5 News Update.**
11.05 **Film: The Big Wedding.** (2013) Concluded.
11.40 **Brides Make You Laugh Out Loud.** Iain Lee narrates a collection of internet videos featuring weddings. (R)
12.30 Funniest Fails, Fails & Flops. (R) **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Body in the Freezer. Countdown to Murder. (R) **4.00** Tattoo Disasters UK. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.35** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Sounds of the Seventies **8.10** Natural World **9.00** Imagine – Habeneros: You Say You Want a Revolution? Part Two **10.30** Arena: Cigars – Out of the Humidor **11.30** Latin Music USA **12.30** Natural World **1.20** How to Be Bohemian with Victoria Coren Mitchell **2.20** Arena: Cigars – Out of the Humidor **3.05** Close
ITV2
11.50 Take Me Out: 10th Anniversary Special **12.50** You've Been Framed! Gold **1.50** FYI Daily **2.55** Film: The Mummy Returns (2001) **4.15** Britain's Got Talent **5.35** Britain's Got More Talent **6.40** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) **7.55** FYI Daily **8.00** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.25** Film: What If (2013) **1.25** FYI Daily **1.30** Film: What If (2013) **2.30** Teleshopping
ITV3
11.50 A Touch of Frost **1.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.55** Inspector Morse **6.00** Lewis **8.00** The Cruise **9.00** Tommy Cooper Forever **10.00** Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This **12.10** Blue Murder **2.05** Tommy Cooper Forever **2.55** Stephen Fry's Key to the City
ITV4
1.20 Mr Bean **2.25** The Big Fish Off **3.35** Film: The Green Berets (1968) **4.40** FYI Daily **4.45** Film: The Green Berets (1968) **6.25** Film: The Spy Who Loved Me (1977) **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** Film: The Spy Who Loved Me (1977) **9.00** Film: Assassins (1995) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10** Film: Assassins (1995) **11.40** Film: Safe House (2012) **12.40** FYI Daily **12.45** Film: Safe House (2012) **1.55** It's Not Rocket Science **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **E4**
1.30 The Big Bang Theory **5.30** Young Sheldon **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** Film: Snow White & the Huntsman (2012) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** The Inbetweeners **11.10** The Big Bang Theory **12.10** Tattoo Fixers **1.15** Rude Tube **2.45** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.35** Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 Support Your Local Gunfighter (1971) **1.00** Mirror Mirror (2012) **3.05** Carry On Constable (1960) **4.45** Congo **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Body in the Freezer. Countdown to Murder. (R) **4.00** Tattoo Disasters UK. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.35** House Doctor. (R)

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DRINK

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PLAY

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Social Nightmare, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A-grade student Catherine Hardy's chances of securing a place at a good college are placed in jeopardy when inappropriate pictures and messages begin to appear on her social network profiles. It quickly becomes clear her accounts have been targeted by a malicious hacker, and she must discover whether the culprit is her boyfriend, a jealous schoolmate competing for a place at the same college, or someone much closer to home. Mystery thriller, starring Kirsten Prout. (2013)

TUESDAY
Secrets of Eden, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A small community is shocked when a local man murders his wife, then kills himself. A detective uncovers evidence of an affair between the dead woman and the town's pastor and begins to suspect he may be implicated in the tragedy. To learn the truth, she must gain the trust of the couple's troubled teenage daughter. Drama, starring John Stamos and Anna Gunn. (2012)



Tropic Thunder, Friday, BBC1, 11.50pm

WEDNESDAY
Profile for Murder, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A criminal profiler retires to live in California with her family and move on from the horrific crime that ended her career. Her idyllic life is shattered when she discovers the serial killer responsible has escaped from prison and is intent on terrorising her. Thriller, starring Nicki Aycox and Steve Bacic. (2013)

THURSDAY
Patricia Cornwell's The Front, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 Detective Win Garano is recruited to reinvestigate a decades-old murder, but finds someone is killing all the witnesses. Mystery drama, starring Andie MacDowell and Daniel Sunjata. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2010)

FRIDAY
Tropic Thunder, BBC1, 11.50pm
 The cast of a Vietnam War movie unknowingly wanders into the middle of a real-life conflict. Comedy, directed by and starring Ben Stiller, with Jack Black and Robert Downey Jr. (2008)

A Stern lesson awaits Hannah in leaving the family business

Lock all your doors, close the curtains and ignore any bleeps from your mobile – a new Abi Morgan TV project is about to start, so you really don't want to be disturbed.

Cardiff-born Morgan is one of the most gifted scriptwriters around today, whether she's working for the stage or screen.

Plays such as Splendour, Tiny Dynamite and The Mistress Conduct have been acclaimed, but she's gained more recognition for her film work (she wrote the screenplays for The Iron Lady and Shame, among others) and TV (the hugely underrated The Hour and Sex Traffic head her CV).

She's returning to the small screen this week with The Split, her first project for the medium since 2015's River.

"The Split will be an emotional and entertaining exploration of love, marriage and divorce, with Abi bringing her trademark wit, insight and truth to our two brilliant and strong women fighting to try and

work out how to survive modern life," says executive producer Jane Featherstone.

At its heart is the rather fraught relationship between three members of the same family – matriarch Ruth and her daughters Hannah, Nina and Rose.

While Rose, the younger sister, is still searching for her place in life and Nina is proving to be a formidable legal eagle, Hannah is a top divorce lawyer who had been working for her family's firm – until Ruth denied her the promotion she felt she deserved, prompting her to take a job with a rival company. Now mother, daughter and sister find themselves locking horns over complex divorce cases rather than collaborating.

"As Robin Williams once said 'Divorce is expensive... like ripping your heart out through your wallet,'" smiles Morgan. "The Split exposes the complex realities of high end divorce and broken marriage through female divorce lawyers and sisters embattled and bound by their own troubled past."

Heading the cast is Nicola Walker, who's best known for her performances in Last Tango in Halifax and Unforgotten, but who also had a supporting role in the aforementioned River. She takes the part of Hannah.

"I'm delighted to be joining the Defoe family and walking in Hannah's shoes as she picks her way through other people's marriages and relationships, all the while questioning her own," claims the star.

Hannah is married to the smart and affable Nathan (Stephen Mangan), and they appear to be well-matched and happy – until her estranged father, who deserted his family 30 years earlier, appears out of the blue, prompting her to question all her male relationships.

To throw a further spanner in the works, Hannah is reconnecting with Christie, 'the one who got away ...

Also included in the cast are Meera Syal and Stephen Tompkinson as former childhood sweethearts Goldie and Davey.



Nicola Walker stars in The Split, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Holidays Unpacked Channel 4, 8pm
 New series. Brits spend about £1,000 each on a week's holiday in the summer sun, with the majority heading to the Mediterranean. But could more fun be had for the same money? In this programme, Morland Sanders and Lucy Hedges road test up-and-coming travel destinations, taking viewers to on-trend destinations on everyday budgets. The first edition sees Lucy visit Israel to explore the desert and float in the Dead Sea, while Morland samples Costa Rica's pristine Pacific beaches and takes a zip-line through the cloud forest.

Fergie vs Wenger: The Feud Channel 5, 10pm
 Channel 5 have issued a warning with this programme - apparently it contains highly offensive language. Oo-er. Those of us of a particularly sensitive nature had better not tune in; then again, would we expect anything else from a football-related programme? Alex Ferguson and Arsene Wenger's rivalry is legendary and went on for years. Ferguson turned Manchester United into the English top flight's dominant force, while Wenger's Arsenal would occasionally nip in to steal their thunder if the Red Devils ever slipped up. Both men

had very different approaches to the beautiful game - while one favoured a traditional approach, the other learnt valuable lessons from advances in sports science. Here, those who crossed their paths, including Paul Scholes, Steve McClaren, John Motson and Sol Campbell, offer their views.

TUESDAY
Flight HS13 Channel 4, 11pm
 Like so many foreign language series to pop up on Channel 4 these days, this one comes courtesy of the streaming service Walter Presents and the box set of every episode will be available immediately after the first has aired tonight. But, if you prefer to watch dramas the old-fashioned way, fear not because we'll be drip-fed this Dutch thriller here every Tuesday for the next 10 weeks. The plot focuses on happily married Simon and Liv, who appear to have the perfect lives complete with a wonderful son, a beautiful home and successful careers. However, at a family reunion held to mark their offspring's birthday, a surprise guest shakes things up. The next day,

Simon leaves for a medical conference in Barcelona - and shortly afterwards, Liv's life is thrown into disarray by the worst possible news.

WEDNESDAY
Britain's Fat Fight with Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall BBC1, 9pm
 Britain is on track to become the fattest country in Europe by 2025 – unless Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall has his way, that is. In this new series, he'll be trying to find out how obesity became such a problem and what we can do to stop it. That involves investigating some of the UK's biggest food brands and working alongside the GPs and pharmacists who are tackling the problem on the frontlines. But at the heart of the series is a ground-breaking social experiment which sees Hugh challenging the people of



Holidays Unpacked, Monday, Channel 4, 8pm

Newcastle to lose 100,000lbs over the course of a year. With the help of the city's council, he'll be encouraging the locals to make changes to their diet and get involved in physical activities, but can they collectively reach the ambitious target?

THURSDAY
The Truth About Obesity BBC1, 8pm
 Nearly one in four people in the UK qualifies as being obese, meaning their weight is significantly affecting the state of their health. Presenter Chris Bavin seeks out the latest research into obesity and the problems that are being passed down to future generations. He finds out what it means to be obese, what it does to the body and looks at the most up-to-date solutions available. He also reveals how viewers can test themselves with a simple piece of string to find out if they have the most damaging type of fat.

FRIDAY
Our Wildest Dreams Channel 4, 8pm
 New series. Ex-executive Mari leaves south-east London for a new life in Ecuador, hoping the move with her native husband and their young daughter will bring her family closer.

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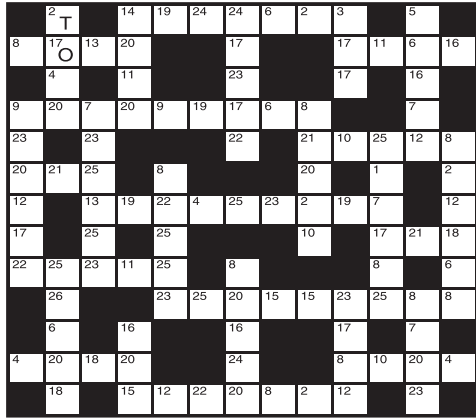
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BRAIN GYM

No.476

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	T	R	O	D	N	B	A	P	K	G	Z	H	Y
2	Q	M	F	S	X	I	E	W	U	L	V	C	J

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

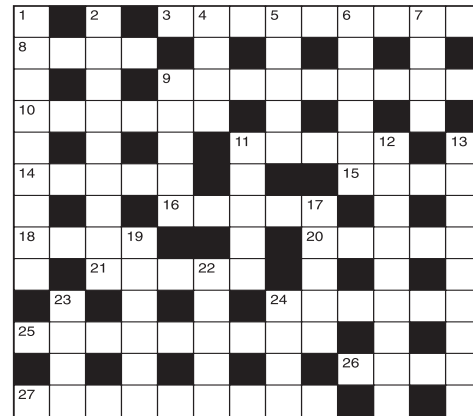
Cryptic Clues:

Across

3. Plenty in favour of a merger (9)
8. Dash from Iceland (4)
9. Sluggard making little progress with a tutor (9)
10. Class a number as precise (6)
11. Almost rate as fools (5)
14. Rob with a gun (5)
15. Absorbed with a new part (4)
16. Wounds in a most absent-minded way (5)
18. A vessel that has been taken out of the water (4)
20. Acted strangely for a Service trainee (5)
21. Stretch - of river? (5)
24. Others acquire their habits from him (6)
25. Went to pieces when praised (7,2)
26. Norwegians live in what was Czechoslovakia (4)
27. Pay a visit after some persuasion? (4,5)

Down

1. Man of action, in his turn (9)
2. Not a bad bid for the roundabouts? (4,5)
4. List a waiter may be asked for (4)
5. Colours and becomes servile (5)
6. Rather earlier (6)
7. Not often seen in London certainly! (4)
9. These are sure to be brisk for beer on board (5)
11. Partly under water from waves caused by a passing vessel (5)
12. Old-timer (9)
13. Specify space available for a first-class passenger (9)
17. Throw away a fight? (5)
19. Possibly secure and free from danger (6)
22. Communist firm about belief (5)
23. After hesitation leave thus (4)
24. A diverting act? (4)



Quick Clues:

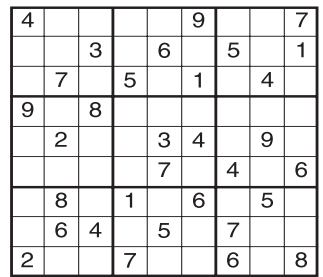
Across

3. Declaration (9)
8. Shape (4)
9. Liveliness (9)
10. Vigour (6)
11. Pondered (5)
14. Chop finely (5)
15. Tear (4)
16. Occurrence (5)
18. Fling (4)
20. Get up (5)
21. Compass (5)
24. Claim (6)
25. Detour (9)
26. Signify (4)
27. The accused (9)

Down

1. Consequences (9)
2. Immaturity (9)
4. Small (4)
5. Time (5)
6. Affair (6)
7. Mid-day (4)
9. Concur (5)
11. Bit (5)
12. Devoted (9)
13. Retainer (9)
17. Seized (5)
19. Plan (6)
22. Sat for picture (5)
23. Conceal (4)
24. In adversity (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

2	7	3	8	6	9	5	1	4
6	5	9	3	1	4	8	7	2
1	8	4	2	5	7	6	3	9
5	1	7	9	8	3	4	2	6
9	6	2	5	4	1	7	8	3
3	4	8	6	7	2	1	9	5
7	3	5	4	2	8	9	6	1
8	2	6	1	9	5	3	4	7
4	9	1	7	3	6	2	5	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Cold; 3 Educator; 8 Neon; 9 Returned; 11 Poor relation; 13 Strict; 14 Grocer; 17 Prison record; 20 Primates; 21 Zinc; 22 Speedier; 23 Aged. Down: 1 Conspire; 2 Look out; 4 Dwells; 5 Court order; 6 Tango; 7 Ride; 10 Grandstand; 12 Produced; 15 Crowing; 16 Inhere; 18 Raise; 19 Opus.
QUICK - Across: 1 Pact; 3 Dampness; 8 Real; 9 Predator; 11 Embarrassing; 13 Strict; 14 Proper; 17 Evil speaking; 20 Extended; 21 Maze; 22 Besieged; 23 Less. Down: 1 Perverse; 2 Chamber; 4 Airman; 5 Pedestrian; 6 Eaten; 7 Sure; 10 Truculence; 12 Progress; 15 Private; 16 Sphere; 18 Votes; 19 Herb.

Quiz

1. Who played Fred's mother-in-law in the 1994 live action film The Flintstones?
2. In which country did King Farouk abdicate in 1952?
3. Which Beatles song was covered by 1,186 performers in its first seven years?
4. What type of animal is the blackcap?
5. On which Scottish island was John Smith buried?
6. On what date does Epiphany fall?
7. Which artform uses labanotation?
8. Which food sustained the Israelites in the wilderness?
9. In which country is Doi Inthanon the highest mountain?
10. In which year was the Suez Crisis?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Nelson Mandela; 2 The New Yorker; 3 A snake; 4 Rhine; 5 1978; 6 Hansard; 7 The Spanish Armada Medal; 8 Sir Compton Mackenzie; 9 Chile; 10 Marshal.
Niner: ALCHEMIST

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

16345276
1278
9537

gives a small animal,
gives a second small animal,
gives small particles.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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PROPERTY

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Charming detached home has recently been refurbished

This charming traditional detached home in Park Street, Bridgtown, has recently been fully refurbished to a high standard.

It is for sale through Marwood Homes at £195,000 with no chain.

Situated close to Cannock town centre, it also has superb commuter links via road, railway and the motorway/toll road.

Its accommodation briefly comprises a welcoming lounge with a marble fireplace, a fantastic modern dining kitchen, a stylish bathroom and three good sized bedrooms with the master having an en-suite.

It has an enclosed garden to the rear with secure gated parking to the side, plus a driveway to the front. It has recently installed gas central heating, double glazing, re-wiring and external rendering.

The property is set back from the road, having a forecourt with a reclaimed brick boundary wall. There is also a driveway with detailed block paved edging and gated access providing further secured parking.

The kitchen/diner is a stunning space which forms the hub of the home, having ample space for dining furniture. It has windows to the front and side and a Velux window. It has quality kitchen units with ample work-surfaces, an under-stairs storage cupboard and a door to the rear. It also has ceiling spot lights and integral appliances.

The bathroom has a quality white bathroom suite comprising of a wash hand basin set in vanity unit, a low level WC, a panel bath with a mixer tap and a shower attachment, plus fully tiled walls and flooring.

Outside, the rear garden space comprises of a courtyard with brick built outbuildings including an outside WC and a separate utility room with plumbing and electrics.

Add to this ample further parking facilities and a lawned area.

BRIDGTOWN £195,000



TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Marwood Homes

TEL: 01543 500700

EMAIL: enquiries@marwoodhomes.com

KEY FEATURES

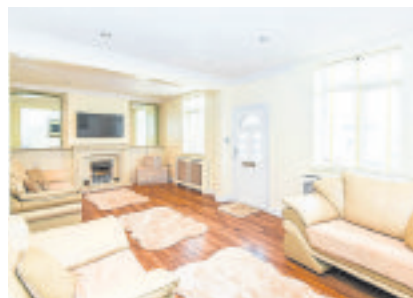
Traditional detached home

Recently refurbished

3 bedrooms

Close to town centre

Ideal for commuting



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NEW




PEAK CLOSE, ARMITAGE

A well presented semi-detached located in a cul-de-sac position with views over open countryside. UPVC double-glazed and electric storage heating. Entrance Porch, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Conservatory, First Floor Landing with Three Bedrooms with Master having an En-Suite and Bathroom. INTEGRAL GARAGE. Parking to front with enclosed garden to rear. EPC rating D

£224,995

NO CHAIN




TITHEBARN ROAD, RUGELEY

Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN is this detached bungalow in popular location. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Side Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen. Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to side. Single Garage and Gardens to front and rear. EPC Rating D

£245,000

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house - £575pcm

St Thomas Way,
Hawkesyard - three
bedroomed house -
£665pcm

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NEW




FORTESCUE LANE, RUGELEY

A traditional detached bungalow benefitting from UPVC double-glazing and Gas central Heating. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room/Bedroom Three, Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Large Utility Room, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms and Large Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear. SECTIONAL GARAGE to rear. EPC rating to follow

£285,000

NEW




BRINDLEY BANK ROAD, RUGELEY

A good sized detached bungalow on a generous plot leading to the TRENT & MERSEY CANAL. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Side Entrance Hall, L shaped Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. SINGLE GARAGE. Gardens to front and rear. EPC rating to follow

£289,995

NEW




BUCKMASTER WAY, RUGELEY

Positioned on a good sized corner plot having undergone improvements and extensions the property must be viewed. Entrance Hall, Guest WC, Lounge, Open plan Kitchen/Dining Area and Family Room. First Floor Landing, Four Bedrooms with Master having an En-Suite Shower Room and Family Bathroom. SINGLE GARAGE with gardens to front, side and rear. EPC rating B.

£310,000




LITTLE TIXALL LANE, GREAT HAYWOOD

A delightful family home having undergone a programme of refurbishment the property must be viewed to truly appreciate. Entrance Porch, Open plan Living Kitchen, Inner Hallway, Three Double Bedrooms one having an En-Suite Bathroom and Family Bathroom. Extensive parking to front. Gardens to front and rear. EPC rating D

£320,000

NEW




WESTBUTTS ROAD, ETCHINGHILL

Viewing of this spacious detached family home is essential to appreciate the size of accommodation on offer. Entrance Hall, Downstairs Shower Room, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Utility Room and Conservatory. First Floor Landing, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom and Separate WC. Driveway providing Off-Road Parking, Large South Facing Rear Garden and LARGE INTEGRAL GARAGE. EPC rating E.

£399,950

NO CHAIN




GREENACRES, ETCHINGHILL

Greenacres is a traditional detached bungalow set in gardens of approximately a 1/3 acre offering ample parking and privacy. Enclosed Porch, Reception Dining Hall, Lounge, Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Utility Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom and separate WC. SINGLE GARAGE with ample parking. Private established gardens to rear. EPC rating D.

£399,995



**FRIARS COT
KINGSLEY WOOD ROAD**

Positioned in the enviable location of Kingsley Wood Road is Friar Cot. Tucked away on the edge of Cannock Chase the property offers versatile accommodation. This superb versatile, individually built, detached property with Swimming Pool complex in well established gardens must be viewed. EPC rating F

£570,000



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Semi-detached property on sale with no chain

WALSALL
£175,000

Being immaculately presented, this semi-detached home in Martley Road, Walsall, is for sale through Marrior & Co at £175,000 with no chain.

Having excellent value accommodation, this home is most worthy of early internal viewing.

The gas centrally heated and double-glazed accommodation briefly includes a porch, an entrance hall/stairs, a front lounge with wood-effect laminate flooring and a modern steel finished focal point fireplace, a breakfast/dining kitchen, a conservatory, three bedrooms, a family bathroom, a concrete paved driveway giving off-road parking for several vehicles flanked by mature lawn, a detached single garage and a mature well-screened rear garden.

This ideal family property has been much improved



by the current owner. It is conveniently placed in the popular residential area of High Heath, Pelsall, and has good access to all usual local amenities.

These include frequent and regular public transport services, schools catering for children of all age groups and places of public worship. There are excellent recreational facilities in the area including Pelsall cricket and football clubs together with many social clubs and access to Pelsall village and picturesque common.

The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this charming property.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing, contact Marrior & Co on 01922 404446.



Well-presented family home has recently been refurbished

BLOXWICH
£250,000

>>>

Having recently been tastefully refurbished to an excellent standard, this three-bedroom detached home in Stafford Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, is very well presented.

It is for sale through Goodchilds at £250,000.

This family home is set behind a gated driveway and an attractive front garden.

Internally the property has undergone complete restoration. Key features include a generous tarmac driveway, a single garage with a remote door, a newly fitted entrance porch and canopy, a refitted kitchen and a contemporary bathroom. Stylish oak internal doors complete the modern look.

To the rear of the property is a landscaped garden which is a private, relaxing space.

Contact Goodchilds on 01922 405699.



Four-bedroom house is superbly appointed and well presented

ALDRIDGE
£380,000

<<<

Edwards Moore Estate Agents are pleased to present a splendidly appointed four-bedroom detached property in St Marys Way, Aldridge, on sale for £380,000.

Within walking distance of Aldridge centre, the property has extended accommodation and a recently re-fitted kitchen and bathrooms.

With uPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating, the property has a reception hall, study, dining room, spacious lounge, and extended breakfast kitchen. It also features a utility, four bedrooms – master with en suite shower room, a family bathroom, and well-maintained fore and rear gardens together with garage.

Schools and amenities are close at hand.

To book a viewing, call Edwards Moore Estate Agents on 01922 745105.



Three-bedroom detached in cul-de-sac is well-presented

Positioned in a quiet cul-de-sac, this well-presented three-bedroom detached property in Wallace Close, Norton Canes, is for sale through Marwood Homes at £160,000.

It is within easy reach of local schools and amenities and conveniently placed for access to the A5, M6 and the M6 Toll. In more detail it has an entrance porch/hall

NORTON CANES

£160,000

<<<

with tiled flooring and stairs off. The lounge/diner is dual aspect with a bow window to the front, a fireplace, under-stairs storage and sliding patio doors to the conservatory with tiled flooring.

The kitchen includes an electric

oven and a gas hob with an extractor over and has tiled flooring. Upstairs are three bedrooms and a bathroom which is fully tiled and includes a bath with a shower over.

The rear garden has a lawn area and slatted patio area and a side gate to the side driveway and garage.

For further details contact Marwood Homes on 01543 500700.



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High Street, Colton

£325,000

NEW



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this refurbished four bedroom semi detached dormer property in the delightful Village of Colton. The accommodation briefly comprises hallway, four bedrooms, two refitted bathrooms, study, refitted large kitchen/dining/living area, utility room, front and rear gardens with detached garage, parking for several vehicles, also offered with No Upward Chain

Sheringham Drive, Etching Hill

£175,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented detached home with No Upward Chain. Internal inspection is highly recommended and accommodation includes: Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Conservatory, Three bedrooms and shower room, Front and Rear Gardens with driveway

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Uttoxeter Road, Hill Ridware

£275,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to market this five bedroom family home, situated in the sought after village of Hill Ridware. Being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN and having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Two Reception Rooms, Lounge, Study, Fitted Kitchen and Utility with Cloakroom. Landing to Five Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway

Delafield Way, Etching Hill

£169,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented link detached family home offered with No Upward Chain. The property is located in Etching Hill and must be viewed to appreciate, the accommodation in brief comprises hallway, lounge, dining kitchen, conservatory, three bedrooms, bathroom, carport and front and rear gardens, viewing

Cardigan Avenue, Rugeley

£169,950

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and refurbished three bedroom semi detached property in a popular location. Internal inspection is highly recommended and accommodation comprises: Hallway, Lounge/ Diner, Refitted Kitchen, Guest WC, Three bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, Garage with parking

Finches Hill, Etching Hill

£169,950

STAR
BUY



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this refurbished three bedroom semi detached property in a popular location. The property is situated in a quiet cul de sac and is offered with No Upward Chain. Features include a refitted kitchen and bathroom, single garage and gardens to front and rear, viewing essential

Windsor Close, Rugeley

£245,000

MUST
BE
VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this exceptionally well presented detached family home in a cul-de-sac location. The property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. The property consists of entrance hallway, guest wc, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, three bedrooms (originally four), en suite

Roseway, Rugeley

£169,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious and well presented link detached family home. Situated in a quiet cul de sac the property comprises of three bedrooms, lounge, kitchen/ diner and bathroom with garage. Offered with No Upward Chain and all sensible offers will be considered for a quick sale

Huntsmans Walk, Etching Hill

£175,000 Guide Price

NO
CHAIN



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious and well presented link detached home in a popular location. Offered with No Upward Chain comprising of hallway, three bedrooms, kitchen/diner, bathroom and garage. The property is currently Leasehold however the current owners are in the process of purchasing the

Middle Croft, Hawksyard

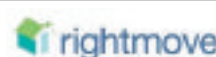
£249,950

NEW
PRICE



● JR Properties are pleased to market this modern four bedroom family home, situated on the popular Hawksyard Estate. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge and Good sized Family Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage

"Serving Rugeley and its Villages"



www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

25B Horsefair, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2EJ

JR
PROPERTIES

T:01889 577731

E:enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

35

The Chronicle Thursday, April 19, 2018

Peakes Road, Etching Hill

£385,000

NEW
PRICE



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this traditional 1930s detached home which sits on a mature plot of over half an acre (approx). The house itself has gas central heating and double glazing with five bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen, utility, two bathrooms and double garage. The property offers huge potential within a highly desirable area

St Johns Drive, Hawksyard

£209,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious detached family home situated on the ever popular Hawksyard development. Featuring gas central heating and double glazing the property should be viewed to appreciate the family sized accommodation on offer with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, two reception rooms and garage with a larger than average rear garden

The Beeches, Rugeley

£200,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented and refurbished detached bungalow in a popular cul de sac location. The property must be viewed to appreciate the quality of work and standard of fitments throughout and accommodation briefly comprises: Hallway, Stunning Refitted Kitchen, Dining

Upton Place, Rugeley

£145,000

NEW
PRICE



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached family home being located in a popular area. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with Driveway.

Eaton Drive, Rugeley

£174,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented four bedroom three storey property that offers flexible family accommodation that must be viewed to appreciate. The accommodation includes hallway, guest wc, utility room, open plan living/dining/kitchen, two bathrooms, four bedrooms and garage with parking for numerous vehicles and well

We're Selling...
Are You...?

CALL US FOR
FREE
VALUATION

Birches Valley, Cannock

£285,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this rare opportunity to acquire a three bedroom semi detached house in the heart of Cannock Chase-An area of outstanding natural beauty. The property must be viewed to appreciate the accommodation on offer which briefly comprises hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen,

Wolsley Road, Rugeley

£119,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented first floor two bedroom apartment in a popular location. The accommodation briefly comprises hallway, lounge with kitchen and dining area, two bedrooms, bathroom and en suite and allocated parking space, viewing essential

Old Eaton Road, Rugeley

£239,950 Guide Price

MUST
BE
VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious five bedroom semi detached in a popular residential area of Rugeley. The extended property has to be viewed to appreciate and features gas central heating, double glazing, hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, five bedrooms, bathroom, garage and plentiful parking to front..viewing essential

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estate agents

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* terms and conditions apply

**Littleworth Road
RAUNSLLEY**



Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C

Offers in Excess of £400,000

**Hednesford Road
RUGELEY**



Deceptively spacious five/six bedroom detached house / Spacious five/six bedroom detached house / First floor annexe offering a further bedroom, lounge and kitchenette / Large rear garden /

£350,000

**Albany Drive
WIMBLEBURY**



Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Four double bedrooms / Set back & raised from the road on good sized plot down quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation

£320,000

**Chaplain Road
HEATH HAYES**



Immaculately presented four bedroom detached house / Deceptively spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Stunning open plan kitchen-diner / Modern fitted bathroom & en-suite

£310,000

**Newbury Road
NORTON CANES**



Four bedroom detached house / Set on a good sized corner plot / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen & bathrooms / Private rear garden

£300,000

**Wenlock View
HEDNESFORD**



Executive four bedroom detached family home / Set on small private development / Stunning open plan kitchen-diner / Spacious living room / High spec kitchen / En-suite plus guest WC

£300,000

**Hill Street
HEDNESFORD**



Refurbished five bedroom detached family home / Side extension & modern finish to high standard throughout / Spacious sleeping accommodation / High spec bathroom & en-suite / Large carport to

£280,000

**Canterbury Way
HEATH HAYES**



Truly outstanding executive detached four bedroom family home / Finished to a show house standard and immaculately presented throughout / Stunning open plan high spec dining kitchen / Delightful

£279,995

**Stephenson Way
HEDNESFORD**



Three bedroom detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge-diner / Good sized private rear garden / Garage and driveway for four cars

£264,950

**Bramwell Drive
HEDNESFORD**



Outstanding & immaculately presented four bedroom town house / Occupying a large corner plot / High spec finish throughout / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Two en-suites

Offers in Excess of £260,000

**Cannock Road
HEATH HAYES**



Stunning three bedroom detached family home / Refurbished to an extremely high standard throughout / Three double bedrooms / Large garden / Driveway for several cars

£260,000

**St Thomas Drive
RAUNSLLEY**



Immaculately presented four bedroom detached house / Refurbished to high standard throughout / New driveway / Modern fitted kitchen / Re-plastered lounge & new fireplace

**Oak Woods
CANNOCK**



Immaculately presented three bedroom detached house / Stunning open plan living area with kitchen, diner and sitting area / Show house finish throughout / Quiet cul-de-sac

£240,000

**Juniper Close
HAZEL SLADE**



Well presented three bedroom detached family home / Highly desirable semi rural area / Spacious lounge & open plan kitchen-diner / Charming good sized private rear garden / Integral garage

£230,000

**Wade Lane
RUGELEY**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Set on good sized corner plot / highly sought after area / Spacious lounge / Kitchen-diner / Good sized low maintenance rear garden

Offers in Excess of £210,000

**Walsall Road
BRIDGTOWN**



Spacious extended four bedroom detached house / Set on a large plot / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms / Large private rear garden which is not overlooked,

Offers in Excess of £210,000

**Pendle Hill
HEDNESFORD**



Well presented semi detached three bedroom house / Set over three storeys / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Private rear garden / Superb top floor master bedroom

Offers in Excess of £200,000

**Hobby Way
HEATH HAYES**



Immaculately presented three bedroom townhouse / Finished to an exceptionally high standard throughout / Set over three storeys / High spec fitted kitchen / Driveway for two vehicles and a detached garage

Offers in Excess of £200,000

**Lime Pit Lane
CANNOCK**



Immaculately presented and superbly maintained three bedroom detached house / Set on a corner plot within a modern sought after development /

Offers in the Region Of £199,995

**Pye Green Road
CANNOCK**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Superb contemporary open plan layout on the ground floor / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Low maintenance private rear garden / Low

£199,950

**Hill Street
HEDNESFORD**



Immaculately presented three bedroom semi detached house / Dining kitchen / Spacious lounge / Large rear garden / Driveway with parking for several cars

£195,000

**Elder Close
HEATH HAYES**



Well presented three bedroom detached house / Set on quiet cul-de-sac / Planning permission to extend full length to the side with storeys / Additional garage conversion / Spacious lounge & modern

£190,000

**Braemar Road
NORTON CANES**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Lounge-diner / Conservatory, guest WC & garage / En-suite to master / Block paved drive with parking for up to three vehicles

£180,000

**Huntington Terrace Road
CANNOCK**



1930's style three semi detached house / Spacious lounge & dining room / Modern kitchen / Driveway / Good sized rear garden

Offers in Excess of £150,000

**Bedford Way
RUGELEY**



Three bedroom end terraced house / Idyllic semi rural location on the fringe of Cannock Chase / Stunning views of the countryside / Spacious extended lounge & front sitting room / Driveway with

£150,000

**Heath Gap Road
CANNOCK**



Traditional Victorian three bedroom semi detached house / Modern fitted kitchen & ground floor bathroom / Spacious living accommodation / Large private rear garden

£133,000

**Church View
BRERETON**



Charming two bedroom terraced cottage / Spacious lounge / Large double bedroom plus a further good sized single / Private rear courtyard / Off road parking

£120,000

**Littleworth Road
HEDNESFORD**



Three bedroom character property / Situated in semi rural location / NO ONWARD CHAIN & VACANT POSSESSION / Two spacious reception rooms / Private rear garden & off road parking

£120,000

**Bettys Lane
NORTON CANES**



Well presented one bedroom first floor self contained maisonette / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Superb open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen, newly fitted bathroom / Double bedroom

Offers in Excess of £80,000

**Longacres
RAUNSLLEY**



One bedroom first floor maisonette / Ideal for first time buyers and investors / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Spacious lounge

£80,000

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The Helmsley Plot 2

PHASE III OF WELL EQUIPPED TWO AND FOUR BEDROOMED HOMES
Being built as part of a private owner/occupier development of 22 dwellings

- Well Equipped Four Bedroomed Mews House
- Reception Hall
- Cloakroom
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Three First Floor Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom and En-Suite Shower Room
- Second Floor Bedroom with En-Suite and Dressing Room
- Private Garden at Rear
- Garage
- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Fully Double Glazed

Well Equipped Four Bedroom Mews House
PRICE: £234,950 FREEHOLD

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8 COLLIERS WAY HUNTINGTON

WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOMED MID MEWS HOUSE OFFERING ACCOMMODATION ON THREE FLOORS Located in Popular Position

- Reception Hall & Cloakroom
- Lounge / Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen
- Two First Floor Bedrooms
- Two Second Floor Bedrooms
- En Suite Shower Room & Family Bathroom
- Garage & Gardens
- Communal grounds
- Gas Central Heating & Fully Double Glazed
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC C (79)

£725pcm

14 BLENHEIM DRIVE, WEDNESBURY

WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT

Enjoying Open Views To Rear Located in Popular Cul-De-Sac

- Communal hall, stairs and landings
- Entrance hall
- Open plan lounge/dining/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom with WC
- Two allocated parking spaces
- Economy 7 electric heating & fully double glazed
- Security phone system
- EPC rating C (74)

£74,950

SHOOT LODGE, ACTION PASTURES, TEDDESLEY ROAD, PENKRIDGE, ST19 5RH

A PRIVATE COUNTRY RESIDENCE WITH GROUNDS EXTENDING TO APPROXIMATELY 5.86 ACRES (2.37HA) Incorporating Comprehensively Renovated Five Bedroomed Detached Family Residence and Pasture Land

- Utility & cloakroom
- Characterful lounge & impressive dining room
- Luxury fitted dining kitchen
- 5 bedrooms
- 5 en suites
- Detached double width garage
- Extensive grounds
- Fishing pool
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating D (63)

£1950pcm

THE GRANARY, PILLATON, PENKRIDGE

A SUPERB 4/5 BEDROOM BARN CONVERSION OCCUPYING 1/4 ACRE PLOT IN SOUGHT AFTER RURAL LOCATION YET WITHIN ACCESS TO PENKRIDGE

- Catchment area to Wargarston school
- Easy access to Penkridge and Cannock
- 1/4 acre plot
- Beautifully presented
- Rural views
- Dining kitchen with Aga
- Three bath, shower rooms
- Extensive parking
- Tandem garage (could be used as games room)
- Vaillant LPG boiler with existing 5 year warranty

£499,950

140 BRADBURY LANE, HEDNESFORD

FAMILY SIZED THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Within 1 Mile From Hednesford Town Centre, Railway Station, Shops, Cannock Chase Primary School And Child Nurseries

- Entrance hall
- Two Reception rooms
- Kitchen
- Side entrance with WC off
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage
- Gas central heating
- In need of some modernisation
- EPC rating E (45)

£132,950 Freehold

ROSEGARTH, STRAIGHT MILE, CALF HEATH

INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE OFFERING WELL APPOINTED FAMILY ACCOMMODATION WITH DETACHED DOUBLE WIDTH GARAGE HAVING GAMES/HOBBY ROOM WITH SHOWER ROOM OVER Set In Mature Ornamental Gardens Extending To Approximately 1/2 An Acre In Semi Rural Position In This Much Sought After South Staffordshire Village

- Central reception hall
- Two reception rooms
- Dining kitchen
- Shower/cloakroom
- Double glazed conservatory
- Central gallery landing
- Four double bedrooms
- 2 ensuite and family bathroom
- Double width garage with family room over
- EPC rating E (43)

£875,000

146 CANNOCK ROAD, CHADSMOOR

TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED HOUSE BENEFITING FROM SECURE OFF ROAD PARKING Convenient For Local Facilities

- Sitting room
- Dining room
- Inner hall
- Kitchen
- Utility room
- Two double bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- All windows double glazed & gas central heating
- Large gardens
- EPC rating D (58)

£125,000

FLAT 7 ROWAN CROFT, PRICE STREET, CANNOCK

WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT Located in Purpose Built Sheltered Housing Development Which is Conveniently Located For Cannock Town Centre

- Entrance hall
- Lounge
- Refitted kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted wet room shower room
- Warden control system/security phone system
- Communal grounds
- Electric heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating D (63)

£73,950

15 CLARION WAY, WEST CHADSMOOR

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Convenient For Local Facilities

- Entrance hall
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen
- Landing
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Corner plot gardens
- EPC rating C (69)

£124,950 FREEHOLD

14 LITTLEWOOD ROAD, CHESLYN HAY

EXTENDED TWO BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located in Popular Residential Area

- Enclosed porch
- Hall
- Lounge/dining room
- Breakfast kitchen
- Built on garage with rear utility
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Predominantly double glazed
- Gardens
- EPC rating D (62)

199,950 FREEHOLD

106 HATHERTON ROAD, CANNOCK

MUCH IMPROVED AND EXTENDED LUXURY DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE
Located In The Sought After Shoal Hill Area Of The Town

- Improved & extended accommodation
- Three bedrooms
- Luxury kitchen & bathroom
- Large gardens
- Extensive off road parking
- Within catchment area for St Lukes Primary School
- With walking distance to Cannock Chase
- Easy access to motorway links
- Inspection essential
- EPC rating D (60)

£349,950 FREEHOLD

70 CHURCH ROAD, SHARESHILL

WELL PRESENTED SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located in a Prominent Position in the Sought After Village of Shareshill

- Breakfast kitchen
- Lounge & dining room
- Four bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Carport and garage with rear utility
- Sought after village location
- Easy access to motorway links
- Gas centrally heated
- Predominantly double glazed
- EPC rating C (69)

£269,950

12 ROWAN CROFT, PRICE STREET, CANNOCK

IMPROVED AND WELL MAINTAINED ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Located In The Popular Rowan Croft Development Convenient For Local Facilities and With Views Towards St Lukes Church

- Communal hall, stairs & landing
- Lounge & kitchen
- Double bedroom
- Refitted shower room
- Double glazed & economy 7 electric heating
- Communal lounge & laundry facilities
- Warden/security phone system
- For persons aged 55 and over
- EPC rating C (77)

£37,950 50% Share

52 OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK

EXTENDED THREE BEDROOMED PERIOD PROPERTY
Located In The Sought After Shoal Hill Area Of The Town With Golf Course To The Rear

- Enclosed porch & reception hall
- Lounge
- Sitting/dining room
- Dining kitchen
- Cloakroom with WC
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Predominantly double glazed & gas central heating
- Garage and gardens
- EPC rating D (56)

£349,950

THE COTTAGE, 146 HATHERTON ROAD, CANNOCK

A LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED 19TH CENTURY COTTAGE WITH INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED EXTENSIONS PROVIDING FLEXIBLE CHARACTERFUL ACCOMMODATION Occupying Corner Plot In The Much Sought After Shoal Hill Area Of The Town

- Entrance hall
- Central lounge & family room/bedroom 4
- Study & refitted dining kitchen
- Orangery & snug
- Master bedroom suite & ensuite shower room
- Two further bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Integral garage & landscaped corner plot gardens
- Fully double glazed & gas central heating
- EPC D (55)

£475,000 FREEHOLD

72 CHENET WAY, CANNOCK

WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
Located in Popular Residential Development

- Reception hall & cloakroom
- Lounge & dining room
- Dining kitchen & utility room
- Landing
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room & family bathroom
- Gas central heating & fully double glazed
- Landscaped gardens
- Integral garage
- EPC rating D (66)

£249,950 FREEHOLD

131 HATHERTON ROAD, CANNOCK

SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE
Located In The Much Sought After Shoal Hill District of the Town

- Lounge & dining room
- Kitchen
- Central landing
- Four bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas warm air central heating
- Part double glazed
- Garage
- Gardens
- EPC tbc

£335,000 FREEHOLD

4 HARDIE GREEN, CANNOCK

THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

- Entrance lobby
- Lounge
- Dining kitchen
- Utility
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Gardens
- EPC rating E (48)

£126,950



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NEW

NORTON CANES
POPLAR STREET

SSTC
Similar Required

- Hallway, Inner Hallway,
- Refitted Kitchen,
- Lounge, Dining Room,
- Play Room/bedroom Four,
- Conservatory/snug,
- Three Generous Bedrooms
- Bathroom.
- Driveway
- Gardens.
- Viewing Is Paramont

\$170,000

REDUCED

HEDNESFORD
BELT ROAD

- Modern Build
- Lounge
- Spacious Kitchen/Diner
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Parking to the Rear

\$130,000

REDUCED

CHESLYN HAY
KESTRAL WAY

- Extended Family Home
- Sought After Location
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage, Driveway
- Viewing Recommended

\$189,950

NEW

CANNOCK
FOXES RAKE

- Modern Semi Detached
- Kitchen/Diner
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Conservatory
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway

\$165,000

NEW

HEDNESFORD
STEPHENSON WAY

- Modern Link Detached
- Lounge, WC
- Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- 3 Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Rear Garden
- Detached Garage
- Town Centre Location

\$189,995

NEW

NORTON CANES
SPINNEY CLOSE

- Hallway,
- Lounge,
- REFITTED Kitchen Diner
- Three Bedrooms
- REFITTED Bathroom.
- Driveway
- Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens

\$194,950

NEW

HEDNESFORD
MOORE STREET

- Fully Refurbished
- Lounge/Diner
- Conservatory
- Stunning Kitchen
- Double Garage
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Viewing Essential

\$170,000

NEW

CANNOCK
PACKINGTON MEWS

- Modern Coach House
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Double Bedroom
- Shower Room
- Allocated Parking
- Freehold
- Viewing Recommended

\$100,000

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NEW **Deavall Way**
Cannock



- > Entrance Hallway
- > Lounge and Kitchen
- > Two Bedrooms
- > Family Bathroom
- > Off Road Parking
- > Enclosed Rear Garden
- > Available 1st May

\$575 pcm

NEW **Mount Street**
Hednesford



- > 2 Reception Rooms
- > Modern Kitchen
- > Two Bedrooms
- > Family Bathroom
- > Off Road Parking
- > Enclosed Garden
- > Available
- > Immediately

\$595 pcm

TO LET **Brooklands Road**
Cannock



- > Lounge and Kitchen
- > Three Bedrooms
- > Family Bathroom
- > Off Road Parking
- > Detached Garage
- > Rear Garden
- > Available
- > Immediately

\$625 pcm

NEW **Hill Street**
Cheslyn Hay



- > Kitchen & Diner
- > Three Bedrooms
- > Family Bathroom
- > Enclosed
- > Rear Garden
- > Available
- > Immediately

\$650 pcm

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LET **Chaseley Road**
Rugeley



- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > 3 Bedroom Detached
- > 4 Reception Rooms
- > NOW LET STC
- > Gated Access
- > Double Garage

NOW LET - \$1500 pcm

LET **Capercaillie Drive**
Cannock



- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > 3 Bedroom Detached
- > Lounge / Diner
- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > Modern Kitchen
- > Off Road Parking

NOW LET - \$750 pcm

LET **Cleeton Street**
Heath Hayes



- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > 3 Bedroom Semi
- > Lounge / Diner
- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > Modern Kitchen & Util

NOW LET - \$725 pcm

LET **Boston Close**
Heath Hayes



- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > 1 Bed Apartment
- > Open Plan Lounge
- > NOW LET STC
- > SIMILAR REQ
- > Modern Kitchen
- > Allocated Parking

NOW LET - \$450 pcm

* Terms and Conditions apply.

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Rugeley
01889 358689

Jayman

Cannock
01543 505566

Lockside, Cannock



Offers Around £40,000

End Terrace Property Rear Garden
Two Bedrooms 25% Shared Ownership
Off Road Parking EPC B

Badger Close, Huntington



Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Two Reception Rooms
Two Bathrooms
Cul De Sac Location
EPC C

**Offers Around
£260,000**

Herondale, Hednesford



Offers Around £100,000

First Floor Apartment Kitchen
Two Bedrooms Allocated Parking
Lounge EPC D

Leasowe Road, Rugeley



Offers Around £125,000

Terraced Property Kitchen
Three Bedrooms Front & Rear Gardens
Lounge EPC D

Andover Place, Cannock



Offers Around £140,000

Semi Detached Property Large Corner Plot
Three Bedrooms NO CHAIN
Two Reception Rooms EPC C

Coulthwaite Way, Rugeley



One Bedroom Apartment
Lounge
Kitchen/Diner
Bathroom
Off Road Parking
EPC D

**Offers Over
£70,000**

Wimblebury Road, Heath Hayes



Offers Around £140,000

End Terrace Property Off Road Parking
Three Bedrooms NO CHAIN
Two Reception Rooms EPC F

Saxon Road, Penkridge



Extended Link Detached
Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Garage
EPC D

**Offers Around
£280,000**

Sunley Drive, Hednesford



Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property Kitchen
Three Bedrooms Garage
Lounge EPC G

Dartmouth Road, Cannock



Duplex Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Lounge/Kitchen
Bathroom
Allocated Parking
EPC B

**Offers Over
£120,000**

Edward Street, Cannock



Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge

Conservatory
Integral Garage
EPC C

Offers Around £240,000

Copperkins Road, Hednesford



Detached Property En Suite, Family Bathroom
Four Bedrooms Rear Garden
Lounge, Dining Room Awaiting EPC

Offers Around £270,000

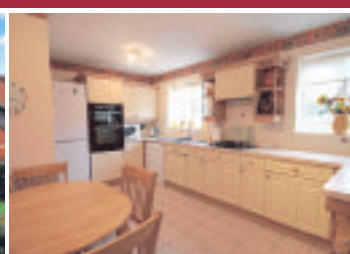
Shugborough Way, Cannock



Offers Around £280,000

Detached Property Conservatory
Four Bedrooms Off Road Parking
Lounge EPC D

Chase Side Drive, Rugeley



Detached Property
Five Bedrooms
Self Contained Annex
Conservatory
Off Road Parking
Awaiting EPC

**Offers Around
£300,000**

Wellington Drive, Cannock



Detached Property Garage
Four Double Bedrooms NO CHAIN
Two Reception Rooms Awaiting EPC

Offers Around £375,000

Free Valuations

Covering: Cannock, Hednesford, Rugeley, Lichfield,
Burntwood, Tamworth and Brownhills



Say Hello

Great Wyrley 01922 701001
185 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley WS6 6NL

Burntwood 01543 686444
1 Lichfield Road, Burntwood WS7 0HQ

paulcarrestateagents.co.uk

Burntwood Office - £245,000



LICHFIELD, BROADBENT CLOSE

- Modern style mid town house
- Three storey accommodation
- Kitchen / diner
- Off road parking & garage

3 2 B

Burntwood Office - £240,000



BURNTWOOD, SPRINGHILL ROAD

- Immaculate Dormer Residence
- Two/Three Bedrooms
- Shower Room & Bathroom
- Garage

3 2 C

Great Wyrley Office - £185,000



GREAT WYRLEY, LINGFIELD DRIVE

- Semi-Detached Residence
- Refitted Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge & Family Room
- Refitted Bathroom

3 1

Burntwood Office - £170,000



CHASETOWN, HOSPITAL ROAD

- Semi-detached residence
- Requires modernisation
- Superb field views
- No onward chain

2 1 E

Great Wyrley Office - £130,000



GREAT WYRLEY, WALSALL ROAD

- Mid Terraced House
- Ground Floor
- Garage & Garden To The Rear
- No Upward Chain

2 1

Great Wyrley Office - £129,500



BLOXWICH, COLLIERY DRIVE

- £250 Towards Solicitors Fee
- Immaculate interiors
- Modern kitchen
- Off-road parking

2 1 E

Burntwood Office - £110,000



BURNTWOOD, HOSPITAL ROAD

- First Floor Maisonette
- Two Good Sized Bedrooms
- Delightful Views to the Front
- No Upward Chain

2 1 D

Great Wyrley Office - £95,000



BRIDGTOWN, UNION STREET

- End-terraced period property
- Ideal for FTB / investor
- Close to Cannock's amenities
- No onward chain

2 1 D



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HEDNESFORD ANGLESEY COURT



- First floor 1 bedroom apartment
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Lounge, Study/Storage
- Garage, Allocated parking
- Good Location
- Intercom Entrance
- Must be Viewed
- EPC rating D

£105,000

CANNOCK NEWHALL STREET



- A two bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen and guest cloakroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- EPC rating E

£139,950

HEATH HAYES DENBURY CLOSE



- A three bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden
- Tandem garage
- Driveway
- EPC rating D

£209,950

PENKRIDGE ST MODWEN WAY



- A three bedroom detached
- Lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Breakfast kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, driveway
- Garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£325,000

HEATH HAYES CANNOCK ROAD



- A traditional detached property
- Entrance hallway/study area
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Utility, Guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear off road parking
- EPC rating E

£260,000

HEATH HAYES SALISBURY DRIVE



- A three bedroom detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Entrance hallway
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garage, gardens, driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000

HEATH HAYES STRAUSS DRIVE



- A spacious four bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen, dining room
- Utility, guest cloakroom
- Master with ensuite
- Shower room
- Garden to rear, driveway
- EPC rating C

£220,000 offers in excess of

HEDNESFORD STEPHENSON WAY



- A modern two bedroom apartment
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Allocated parking
- Ideal first time buy
- Ideal investment
- Awaiting EPC rating

£83,000 offers in excess of

CANNOCK ST AIDANS ROAD



- A two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to front
- Corner plot
- Enclosed rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£124,950

CHESLYN HAY STATION STREET



- A traditional two bedroom property
- Lounge, dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted first floor bathroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Viewing recommended
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating G

£129,950

CANNOCK MANOR AVENUE



- Spacious three bedroom detached
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room, cloakroom
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating

£242,000

CANNOCK REDHILL ROAD



- One Bedroom
- Central heating
- Driveway, gated access
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating
- NO CHAIN

£124,995

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A 1 Bedroom 1st Floor Coach House Apartment

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Private Ground Floor Entrance Hall
- Open Plan Lounge & Kitchen
- Master Bedroom & Bathroom
- Undercover Parking for 2 Vehicles

£107,500



Watson Close, Rugeley
A 3 Bedroom semi-detached House

- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- 3 Bedrooms
- Kitchen, Bathroom
- Front and rear enclosed gardens

£132,500



Timbertops The Pingle Slitting Mill Rugeley
A Three/Four Bedroom Detached Dorrer Bungalow

- Occupying pprox. quarter of an acre plot
- Oil fuelled central heating
- Large Driveway
- Gardens with spectacular views
- NO CHAIN

£385,000



Burnthill Lane Rugeley
A Four Bedroom Executive Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- Dining Room
- Integral Garage

Offers over £239,950



More Properties URGENTLY REQUIRED Rugeley and Surrounding Areas



Ti-Arwil, Keystone Lane, Rugeley
Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Part Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens & Driveway Parking
- Single Car Garage & Outside W.C

£159,500

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“Conditions Apply”



Levett Grange, Rugeley
A Two Bedroom Mid Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Guest W.C
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Allocated Parking to Front

£600 PCM



Winstanley Place, Rugeley
A 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating
- Part Double Glazing
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Rear gated access

£550 PCM



Sheep Fair, Rugeley
A Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Integrated Kitchen Appliances
- Conservatory
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Gated Parking

£650 PCM



Sheep Fair, Rugeley
A 1 Bedroom 2nd Floor Flat

- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Kitchenette
- Bedroom with built in wardrobe
- Bathroom

£400 PCM



Fernwood Drive Rugeley
A Two Bedroom End Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Ground Floor WC
- Allocated Car Parking Space
- Fully Enclosed Rear Garden

£525PCM



Hednesford Road - Commercial Property
A Ground Floor Retail Unit

- Main Road Frontage
- Total retail floor area 33.5sqm
- Kitchenette
- Toilet
- Subsidiary area to rear

£7250PA



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LINGFIELD ROAD, NORTON CANES

- FIVE BEDROOMS
- TWO EN-SUITES, BATHROOM
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN

£285,000



BURGOYNE STREET, CANNOCK

- EXECUTIVE DETACHED HOME
- EN-SUITE & BATHROOM
- IMPRESSIVE ACCOMMODATION
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

£260,000



HATTON ROAD, CANNOCK

- DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- OPENFIELD TO FRONT
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM

£249,950



- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- VERY POPULAR LOCATION
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK CHASE
- CARPORT AND GARAGE



BADGER CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

- THREE BED DETACHED HOUSE
- BATHROOM & DOWNSTAIRS WC
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- SOUTH FACING REAR GARDEN

£240,000



- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LARGE MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE



STAFFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- IMMACULATE SEMI DETACHED
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- LARGE DETACHED GARAGE AT REAR
- LARGE REAR GARDEN

£160,000



- LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN CENTRE
- EN-SUITE OFF THE MASTER
- NO UPWARD CHAIN



WALLACE CLOSE, NORTON CANES

- THREE BED DETACHED
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- DUAL ASPECT LOUNGE / DINER
- CONSERVATORY

£160,000



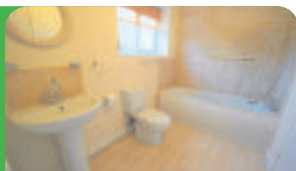
- GARAGE & DRIVEWAY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- REFITTED BATHROOM
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES



REDHILL ROAD, CANNOCK

- DETACHED BUNGALOW
- FULLY DOUBLE GLAZED
- MODERN KITCHEN & BATHROOM
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£125,000



- OPEN PLAN LIVING
- GATED DRIVEWAY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM
- FREEHOLD & EPC C



CAVANSWOOD PARK, HUNTINGTON

- WELL PRESENTED PARK HOME
- REFITTED MODERN SHOWER ROOM
- CORNER PLOT POSITION
- MAINS GAS CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM

£120,000



- RECENTLY REFURBISHED
- TWO BEDROOMS WITH FITTED WARDROBES
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE / DINER



WOOTTONS COURT, CANNOCK

- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN
- MODERN MID TERRACE
- ELECTRIC HEATING
- TWO BEDROOMS

£117,995



- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- IDEAL INVESTMENT RENTAL £550pcm



HEDNEFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- TRADITIONAL END TERRACE
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS

£110,000



- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- KITCHEN & UTILITY

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LUPIN DRIVE, HUNTINGTON

- Modern Second Floor Flat
- Two Double Bedrooms
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- Generous Accommodation

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- Immaculately Presented
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Energy Rating C



SHERBROOK ROAD, CANNOCK

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HEDNESFORD ROAD, HEATH HAYES

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



FREMANTLE DRIVE, HEATH HAYES

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



HARPERS COURT, HEATH HAYES

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



Balfour House, High Green

- Ground floor apartment
- Open plan kitchen / Lounge
- Double bedroom
- Shower room
- Town centre location
- Available now

£450pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Eagleworks Drive, Walsall

- Ground floor apartment
- Open plan lounge
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Two bedrooms (master with en-suite)
- Main bathroom
- Secure entry system

£475pcm Sorry no dss and no pets



Lomax Road, Hednesford

- First floor apartment
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Modern Style bathroom
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- Available now

£485pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Beecroft Court, Cannock

- Brand new apartments
- Open plan kitchen/lounge
- Bathroom with shower over bath
- Furnished/unfurnished available
- Allocated parking
- Selection of apartments available

Prices starting from £525.00pcm



Hodson Way, Heath Hayes

- Terrace House
- Kitchen /Diner
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Parking for 2 cars
- Available now

£675pcm Sorry no pets & no dss



Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay

- Detached bungalow
- Large lounge
- Two double bedrooms
- Recently decorated throughout
- Driveway & Garage
- Available now

£695pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

on the move



KNIGHTS COURT, NORTON CANES



- 2 Bed Town House
- Lounge
- GCH/DG
- Garden
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating D
- No DSS/Pets

£575 pcm

BOW STREET, RUGELEY



- Town Centre
- Three Bed Mid
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bathroom
- GCH & DG
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS OR PETS

£600 pcm

LEES CLOSE, BRERETON



- 3Bed Semi
- Lounge/Diner
- DG/GCH
- Garage
- Gardens
- EPC Rating D
- No DSS/PETS

£625 pcm

PRIMROSE MEADOW, HEATH HAYES



- Two Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- GCH & DG
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS/PETS

£625 pcm

PEAR TREE COURT, RUGELEY

too new for
photograph

- 5 Bed Town House
- Lounge/dining room
- 2 en suites
- Family bathroom
- GCH/DG
- Parking
- Energy Rating B
- NO DSS/Pets

£825 pcm

OLD HEDNESFORD ROAD, CANNOCK



- A Fully Refurbished Detached Family Residence.
- Reception Hall, Guest WC, Lounge
- Impressive Kitchen/Diner, Utility

£349,950

- Spacious Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Four Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Integral Garage, Detached Garage, Driveway, Front, Side & Rear Gardens

LITTLEWORTH ROAD, HEDNESFORD



- A Unique and Individual Detached Bungalow with Potential Annex
- Reception Hall, Spacious Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory

£295,000

- Dining Room, Three Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Bathroom, Shower Room
- Additional Sitting Room, Detached Garage

TUTBURY CLOSE, HEATH HAYES



- An Extremely Well Presented Detached Bungalow positioned on a Corner Plot.
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Wet Room, Two Double

£240,000

- Bedrooms
- Conservatory, Landscaped Rear Garden
- Ample Block Paved Driveway
- No Chain

WATERMINT CLOSE, WIMBLEDY



- An extremely well presented four bedroom detached family home.
- Guest WC, lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Re-Fitted Kitchen & Utility

OIRO £250,000

- Additional sitting room
- Four bedrooms, en-suite
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden & Ample Off Road Parking

PARTRIDGE CLOSE, HUNTINGTON



- A well presented four bedroom detached family home
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Family Room, Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen

Offers in Excess of £250,000

- Conservatory
- Four Good Sized Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted En-Suite & Family Bathroom
- Detached Garage & Ample Off Road

LIMEPIT LANE, CANNOCK



- A Well Presented Five Bed Three Storey Semi Detached House
- Guest WC, lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- Master Bedroom with En-suite

£230,000

- Four Further Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom, Shower Room
- Carport & Driveway
- Rear Gardens

WALSALL ROAD, CHURCHBRIDGE



- An Extremely Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Reception Hall/ Dining Room, Lounge
- Modern Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms, Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Front and Delightful Rear Gardens
- Garage and Driveway

£210,000

KNIGHTON ROAD, WIMBLEDY



- A Well Presented Link Detached House
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen, Four Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- Garage & Driveway
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Open Aspect to Side & Rear
- No Upward Chain

£205,000

RAWNSLEY ROAD, HEDNESFORD



- Viewing Highly Recommended
- Reception Hall, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Diner, Bathroom
- Conservatory, Two DOUBLE bedrooms

offers over £200,000

- Study, Rear Gardens
- Detached Garage & Ample Driveway

CHURCH ROAD, NORTON CANES



- Well Presented Detached Family Home
- Family Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Well Stocked Rear Garden With Open Views
- Driveway & Garage

OIRO £199,950

WRENS CROFT, HEATH HAYES



- A Well Presented Semi Detached House
- Popular Residential Location
- Overlooking Nature Reserve
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite, Family Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces
- Rear Garden

OIRO £189,950

WESTON DRIVE, CHESLYN HAY



- A Beautifully Well Presented Three Bedroom End Terraced House
- Reception Hall, Guest WC
- Spacious Lounge/Diner
- Modern Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms, Modern Bathroom
- Detached Garage, driveway
- Front & Rear Gardens

£169,995

HODSON WAY, HEATH HAYES



- A Modern Well Presented Three Bedroom Terraced House
- Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Kitchen/ Diner
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Parking

£150,000

WALNUT DRIVE, CANNOCK



- A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House with NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Kitchen/ Diner
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Driveway, Carport & Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens

£135,000

GREIG COURT, HEATH HAYES



- A Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Modern Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces, Delightful Rear Garden

£129,950

REDWING DRIVE, HUNTINGTON



- A Well Presented Two Bedroom Mid Terraced House
- Entrance Hall
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens & Driveway
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£120,000

UNION STREET, BRIDGTOWN



- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Ground floor apartment
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- En-suite and bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Off road parking

£99,950

VINE COURT, CANNOCK



- Third floor retirement apartment
- Wide range of facilities within the complex
- Security intercom, Lift access
- £25,000 25% Shared Ownership
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms and wet room
- 24 hour care on hand
- NO UPWARD CHAIN



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155.70-13	£30	185.65-14	£35	195.55-15	£38	205.55-16	£38
165.70-13	£30	195.65-15	£37	195.50-15	£35	225.45-17	£40
165.70-14	£34	185.60-14	£36	195.45-15	£40	205.50-17	£44
185.70-14	£37	185.65-15	£36	195.50-16	£42	225.40-18	£44

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MOTORING

First Morgan Aero GT rolls off Malvern production line

At the Geneva Motor Show last month, the Morgan Motor Company revealed its most extreme road-going model to date, the Aero GT – and the first edition has now rolled off the production line.

Morgan Motor Company will produce just eight of the special Aero GT variants – all vehicles individually built bespoke to customer specification. The Aero GT represents the end of Aero 8 production, guaranteeing that every Aero 8 owner will be the custodian of a very significant piece of Morgan history.

Powered by the same 367bhp BMW N62 V8 engine used in the Aero 8, the Aero GT will travel from 0-62mph in 4.5 seconds, reaching a top speed of 170mph. Each Aero GT will be built with Morgan's latest adjustable suspension and come with manual transmission.

Each customer will have an individual design consultancy with Jon Wells, Morgan's Head of Design, before the car enters production. This, the first customer car to be completed, is finished in Miami Blue, which perfectly complements the aggressive body styling unique to the Aero GT.

The striking body panels of the Aero GT have been sculpted in such a way to ensure that tension and elegance is expressed in each line. All surfacing of the new panels was proven digitally via Computation



The car is powered by the 367bhp BMW N62 V8 engine used in the Aero 8

Fluid Dynamics simulation prior to full scale validation. Each panel is created using the technologically advanced Superforming process synonymous with modern Morgans, before being hand-finished and transformed into Aero GT panels.

The front canard details and wing top louvre vents are proven to reduce low pressure on the sides of the Aero body, making a notable difference in frontal downforce. At the rear, the dramatic diffuser reduces air pressure from beneath the vehicle, increasing rear downforce and reducing the visual weight of the rear-end.

Finite enamelled 'GT' badges signify

the model variant. Each is individually hand made by a British Jeweller.

The interior is hand-finished with a series of painted stitching and pinstripe accents, and an extended choice of wood options.

Steve Morris, managing director said: "Every Morgan is built to an exacting specification and is bespoke to each customer and the first Aero GT off the production line looks superb in every way. It was a pleasure to reveal the car to the world just a few weeks ago, to see the first car leave the factory is an honour and I know the new owner will be delighted when they take delivery."

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15 years of best selling VW Touran is being celebrated

A little over 15 years ago – in March 2003 – Volkswagen launched the first Touran on the market.

Since then, over three model generations, the MPV has developed into a best-selling vehicle and a market leader in its segment in Europe. Over the past 15 years, around 2.3 million new car buyers have chosen the MPV, which is offered as a five- or seven-seater. Today's Touran can impress with intelligent flexibility, a family-friendly character and innovative features, especially in driver assistance and infotainment.

After its launch in 2003, the MPV was given a comprehensive facelift in November 2006 including the first semi-automatic assistance system (Park Assist). In 2010, Volkswagen adapted the Touran – whose sales had already reached 1.13 million units – to the brand's new design DNA and updated its technologies.

After delivering a total of 1.9 million units, Volkswagen developed a completely new generation of the Touran and introduced it in a world premiere in February 2015. This was the first time that the Touran was based on the new 'modular transverse matrix' (MQB), and it was now 130 mm longer and up to 62 kilograms lighter. An entire armada of progressive assistance systems made their way into the compact Volkswagen MPV, as did a new level of connectivity. These



An ideal choice as one of the best thought-out family cars of its time

included the optional 'Car-Net Cam Connect', which parents could use to keep an eye on their children via camera and see on the infotainment system monitor whether everything was all right in the rear seating area. The Touran offers another sensible option: electronic voice amplification. It amplifies passengers' voices via a microphone, and their speech is output over the vehicle's loudspeakers. This can assure good

listening comprehension even across three rows of seats.

The current generation also stands out with one of the largest luggage compartments in its class (up to 834 litres with five people on-board), an ISOFIX child seat system for the rear seats and a 3-zone automatic air conditioner (Climatronic). So, the Touran is also an ideal choice today as one of the best thought-out family cars of its time.

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ECONOMY** **★★★★★
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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km).

Suzuki Celerio range: Urban 55.3-55.3 (5.1-5.1), Extra Urban 76.3-76.3 (3.7-3.7), Combined 65.7-65.7 (4.3-4.3), CO₂ emissions 99-99 g/km. Suzuki Ignis range: Urban from 51.3 (5.5) to 57.6 (4.9), Extra Urban from 64.2 (4.4) to 70.6 (4.0), Combined from 60.1 (4.7) to 65.7 (4.3). Official CO₂ emissions 106-97g/km. Suzuki Swift range: Urban 41.5-46.3 (6.8-6.1), Extra urban 57.6-64.2 (4.9-4.4), Combined 50.4-56.5 (5.6-5.0), CO₂ emissions 128g-116g/km. Suzuki Baleno range: Urban 44.8-60.1 (6.3-4.7), Extra urban 68.8-78.4 (4.1-3.6), Combined 57.6-70.6 (4.9-4.0), CO₂ emissions 115g/km to 94g/km. Suzuki Vitara range mpg: Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO₂ emissions 131g/km to 106 g/km. Suzuki S-Cross range: Urban 39.7-61.4 (7.1-4.6), Extra urban 55.3-74.3 (5.1-3.8), Combined 47.8-68.9 (5.9-4.1), CO₂ emissions 135g/km to 108g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Offer subject to availability. Metallic paint charged at extra cost. Offers exclusive to Autosales. Stock vehicles only.

*Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) Example - Celerio SZ2: Cash Price (including customer saving) £7,499, Deposit £1,740, Total amount of Credit £5,759, Agreement Duration 49 months, 48 Repayments of £89, Purchase Fee (included in Optional Final Repayment) £10, Optional Final repayment £2,465, Total amount payable £8,477.00, Interest Rate (fixed) 5.69%, Representative APR 5.9% APR. Based on 6,000 miles per annum. With Suzuki Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) you have the option at the end of the agreement to: 1. Return the vehicle and not pay the Optional Final Payment. If the vehicle has exceeded the maximum agreed mileage a charge per excess mile will apply. (0 - 4999 miles: 7.0 pence per mile + VAT or 5000 miles or over: 14.0 pence per mile + VAT). If the vehicle is in good condition (fair wear and tear accepted) and has not exceeded the maximum agreed mileage you will have nothing further to pay. 2. Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or 3. Part exchange the vehicle subject to settlement of your existing credit agreement; new credit agreements are subject to status.





Kia's new Rio is packed full of standard equipment

Great value Rio is spacious and very well-equipped

By Ted Welford

The Rio is effectively Kia's Ford Fiesta rival. While it might not be something you've ever heard of, it has actually been around for a fair few years. While not the obvious choice to many in the supermini market, alongside popular choices, it is worth considering just in terms of value for money.

It now gets Kia/Hyundai's relatively new 1.0-litre T-GDi engine, offering 99bhp and 232Nm of torque. Kia launched its new fourth generation Rio last year, giving it a fresh new look and increasing its size. As one of Kia's best-selling cars, it is paramount that it got it right in the competitive supermini market.

It has received Kia's now trademark front slim grille, and a raft of safety technology, allowing it to compete against rivals from Ford and Seat, which both launched new versions of their popular superminis last year. Smart new LED DRLs have also been added, while the infotainment system has been completely redesigned, accessible via a smart seven-inch touchscreen.

Our Rio test car came with Kia's 1.0-litre turbocharged petrol engine. It's a flexible engine, offering decent performance and low running costs, and ideally sized for new drivers.



The cabin of the Rio is well-laid out

It produces 99bhp and a beefy, for its size, 232Nm of torque. While it's not fast, it can get from 0-60mph in 10.3 seconds and onto a top speed of 115mph. It's paired with a five-speed manual gearbox.

As for running costs, Kia claims it will return 62.8mpg, while emitting 102g/km of CO2.

However, like many of these small turbocharged engines, it's difficult to get anywhere near the claimed fuel economy figures. After a 300-mile journey in it, and with steady driving, we struggled to get anywhere near 50mpg.

One of the best things about the Rio is how well it sits at motorway speeds. For such a small engine, it doesn't feel strained at all even when sat at 70mph. It also rides well for the best part, with only potholes and hefty bumps threatening to ruin its smoothness.

The cabin of the Rio is very well laid out, and everything is logically positioned. The seven-inch touchscreen also makes the Rio's interior look fresh and modern, which it largely is.

It's spacious too, with plenty of room up front and the rear should be big enough to seat two adults comfortably.

The Rio is an extremely well-equipped car that represents superb value for money. This top spec '3' model might seem a bit expensive at £16,785, but considering what you get for the money, it's a great deal.

As standard you get 16-inch alloy wheels, automatic lights and wipers, LED DRLs, cornering function lights and electric folding and adjustable mirrors.

On the inside you get faux black leather upholstery with front heated seats, a seven-inch touchscreen that includes satellite navigation, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, rear parking sensors and a reversing camera.

On the safety front, it has autonomous emergency braking, lane departure warning and hill-start control. On our 300-mile snowy journey, though, the braking assist refused to work because of the snow blocking the sensors at the front.

The Kia Rio is a great-value, well-equipped and spacious supermini. In top spec '3', it is laden with all the equipment you'd ever need, and for that reason is the pick of the range.

The 1.0-litre T-GDi engine is also fantastically capable on the motorway and around town.

Model as tested : Rio 1.0 T-GDi '3' Eco
Price : £16,785

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia range of vehicles are between Urban: 29.1 (9.7) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra-Urban: 46.3 (6.1) – 94.2 (3.0) and Combined: 38.2 (7.4) – 88.3 (3.2). The official CO2 emissions for the Kia range of vehicles are between 86 – 189g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. *You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. T&Cs apply. Subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle. (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Price and specification is subject to change without notice. Offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. Acorn Kia is a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

Ford's Focus has been given a major makeover for 2018



The car has been built through closer collaboration with its customers

By James Parker

Ford has pulled the covers off the new Ford Focus – the fourth generation of one of the most popular family cars on sale today.

The Blue Oval says this model has been built through closer collaboration with its customers than ever, and the result is a more spacious cabin with better materials and build quality.

The new Focus gets a wider range of driver assistance technologies too, including adaptive cruise control that can adjust the car's speed to the posted limit by reading signs, fully automated parking and an evasive steering assistant that helps drivers avoid potential collisions.

Its silhouette is true to the outgoing Focus model, but there are plenty of design changes that differentiate this as a new model, such as a redesigned front end with a longer bonnet, new LED lighting both front and rear, and split tail lights.

It's also built on Ford's new C2 vehicle platform, which the firm says improves cabin space, exterior aerodynamics and fuel efficiency.

In addition, Ford is offering a wide range of body styles and trim levels for the Focus range, similar to what we've seen with the new Fiesta. There's the high-spec Vignale, sporty ST-Line and style-conscious Titanium.



Ford is offering a wide variety of body styles and trim levels for the range

For the first time in the Focus range, Ford is offering an Active model, which has elevated ground clearance, rugged black plastic wheel arch mouldings and skid plates for crossover-esque style as well as some off-road ability.

There is a variety of petrol and diesel engine variations available. Petrol buyers can choose from a 1.0-litre three-cylinder unit with 84bhp, 99bhp or 123bhp, while diesel is available as a 1.5-litre unit making 95bhp or 118bhp. All outputs are available with a six-speed manual transmission, while the 118bhp diesel can be had with an eight-speed automatic.

Joe Bakaj, Ford's vice-president of European product development, said: "Our all-new Ford Focus is the pinnacle of technology and driving appeal in its segment."

"The chance to build a completely new car from a fresh piece of paper does not come around often. We grabbed it with both hands, to develop the best mid-size family car that money can buy."

Prices start at £17,930 for the entry-level Style model, which makes it less expensive than the outgoing model, which starts at £18,120 even with a promotional offer that's running at the moment.

The sportier ST-Line model starts at £21,570 and includes 17-inch alloy wheels, a body kit and sports-tuned suspension.

The Focus has been one of the most popular cars sold in the UK in recent years. Ford says it has sold nearly seven million in Europe since it was introduced in 1998, a third of which have been in the UK.

It has sold more than 15,000 already in 2018, making it the fourth best-selling car in the UK despite being due a refresh. It was the third best-selling model in 2017, shifting nearly 70,000 units.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD All New Focus 2.3 EcoBoost (350PS) With Stop/Start - 5 Door, M6: Urban 28.2 (10.0), Extra Urban 44.8 (6.3), Combined 36.7 (7.7), CO₂ emissions 175(g/km). Lowest: FORD Fiesta 1.5 Duratec TDCI Econetic (95PS) Stop-Start, M5: urban 83.1 (3.4), extra urban 94.2 (3.0), combined 88.31 (3.2). Official CO₂ emission 82g/km. Prices & details correct at time of publishing & are subject to change without notice. The Finance Deposit Allowance is only available when financed with Ford Credit. *Finance subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over through Ford Credit. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. An Excess Mileage Charge will be payable if you decide to return the vehicle & the agreed annual mileage has been exceeded. Finance example figures are based on 6,000 miles per annum for illustration purposes & may vary depending on circumstances. Please note calls may be recorded for training & quality purposes. Acorn Group Ltd is an appointed representative of Automotive Compliance Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA No 49000), whose permitted business is to act as Principal Firm for a network of Motor Dealer Appointed Representatives who advise on and arrange non-investment insurance contracts, acting on behalf of the insurer and act as Credit Brokers for introduction to finance providers, acting on behalf of the lender. Details correct at time of publication, E&OE.

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Deaths

BROWN

Margaret

Of Cannock.

Passed away in hospital on
April 6, 2018 aged 82 years.

Devoted Wife of Brian and
beloved Mother of Peter, a
loving Grandmother and
Friend.

A Private Family Cremation
will take place on the morning
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Service of Thanksgiving at St.
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(Joe)

Passed away peacefully on
March 27, 2018, at Tudor
House Care Home, aged 83.

The Funeral Service will
take place at Bushbury
Crematorium, 3.45pm on
Monday, April 23, 2018.

Anyone wishing to attend
please call Sue on
07786 572085.

DRURY

Gail

Wife

Thank you for being
wonderful my darling Fafs.

I'll speak to you everyday as
we had good times and laughs.

Thank you for being my Wife,
beautiful and serene.

We were so happy, did it
really happen, was it a
dream?

All my love Paul.

X X

Mom

God made a wonderful
Mother, a Mother who never
grows old.

He made her smile of the
sunshine and He made her
heart of pure gold.

In her eyes He placed bright
shining stars, in her cheeks
fair roses you see.

God made a wonderful
Mother, and He gave that dear
Mother to me.

Love always, Mark and
Matthew.

X

Sister

A beautiful memory dearer
than gold, of a Sister whose
worth can never be told.

There's a place in my heart
no-one could fill, I miss you
dear Sister and always will.

To hear your voice to see you
smile, to sit and talk to you a
while.

To be together in the same old
way, would be my dearest
wish today.

Love always Sister Tracey
and Brother-in Law Ant.

X

Auntie

Words cannot express how
precious you were to us and
we cannot imagine a world
without you in it.

In times of grief people often
turn to music, there is a line
from the musical Wicked that
brings you to mind.

People come into our lives
bringing something we must
learn, and Gail you taught us
all how to be brave.

The song says I do believe we
have been changed for the
better. You enriched all of
our lives and made us better
people.

Night Night God bless Auntie
Gail.

Love Eleanor and Alex.

X

GAY

Peter

Husband, Father, Sportsman
and Rotarian

Died peacefully, April 5,
2018.

Funeral at 2pm, on Thursday,
April 19, at St Michael's
Church, Penkridge.

Further inquiries to

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

HILL

Kenneth

Of Wimblebury.

Passed away March 30, 2018,
aged 83 years.

Sadly missed by all his Family
and Friends.

Service will be held at
Stafford Crematorium on
Monday, April 23, at 2pm.

The Funeral has been
entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

TEECE

Frank

Late of Chadsmoor.

Passed away peacefully at
Needwood House, Heath
Hayes on April 9, 2018, aged
83 years.

Reunited with Wife Barbara
and a beloved Dad, Grandad,
Great-Grandad and Friend.

Service will be held at St
Lukes, Cannock on Thursday,
April 26, at 2pm followed by
Committal at Stafford
Crematorium.

Family flowers donations to
Needwood House Residents
Fund c/o Funeral Directors.

The Funeral care has been
entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

WALKER

Michael Frank

Passed away peacefully on
Monday, April 2, 2018, aged 71
years.

Michael was much loved and
will be missed dearly by all of
his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take
place on Tuesday, May 1, 2018,
at St Mark's Church, Great
Wyrley at 10.30am, followed
by a Committal Service at
Bushbury Crematorium, East
Chapel.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired will
be greatly appreciated.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
79 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1AH
01543 502322

Acknowledgements

ELSMORE

Julie

nee Rowley

Husband Tim and Parents
Pat and Geoff would like to
thank everyone who attended
Julie's, Funeral, Tim's newly
wedded Wife.

Also, for all your kindness,
support and cards of
sympathy during our sad loss.

Julie will always be
remembered for her love and
devotion to her Family and
she will never be forgotten.

Thank you to all the Nurses
and Staff at New Cross
Hospital for looking after
Julie during her illness.

Also, Staceys Funeral
Directors for all their help
and support.

Donations received will go to
Cancer Research and Guide
Dogs for the Blind.

Thank you All.

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CONDOLENCES
MEMORIES
BIRTHDAYS
WEDDINGS & BIRTHS

Birthday Remembrances



BAKER

William

18.04.1935

No one sees the broken heart that lies behind the smile, no one knows the loneliness that is with us all the while. No matter how life changes, no matter what I do, a special place within my heart, is always there for you.

Loving Wife Irene and Family.

DANDO
Rob
47 Today.

Loved and missed on your Birthday and always Forever in our thoughts and hearts.

Mom, Dad and Family.
X X X

JONES
Stuart
18.04.63

A Birthday wish from us today, lovingly remembered everyday.

Love always Stu.

Joyce, Wesley, Lucy, Beau, Oscar

And All your loving Family.
X X X

1

Family

Elderly & Disabled



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2

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holidays

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3

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7
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Local
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Public Notices

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is applying for a licence to
use 521 Pye Green Road,
Hednesford, Cannock,
Staffordshire. WS12 4LP as
an operating centre for 2
goods vehicles and 2 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land
(including buildings) near
the operating centre(s) who
believe that their use or
enjoyment of that land would
be affected, should make
written representations to
the Traffic Commissioner at
Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills
Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating
their reasons, within 21 days
of this notice. Representors
must at the same time send a
copy of their representations
to the applicant at the top
of this notice. A Guide to
Making Representations is
available from the Traffic
Commissioner's office.
Dated: 20th April 2018

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE

An application for a VARIATION
of a Premises Licence has been
made by Shaun Keasey
to Wolverhampton City Council in
respect of premises known as
The Prince Albert

which are situated at Railway
Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1LG
The application to vary is as
follows:

To amend the opening hours,
licenseable activities timings and
licensing objectives to reflect the
current business model

The full application is available
from Licensing Services at the
address below

Any representations by interested
parties or responsible authorities
regarding the application must be
made in writing to:

Licensing Services, Civic
Centre, St Peter's Square,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1DA by
Friday 11th May 2018.

It is an offence, liable on summary
conviction to a fine up to Level
5 on the standard scale, to
knowingly or recklessly make a
false statement in connection with
the application.

Public Notices

In Shops Centres Limited - in Liquidation (the 'Company')

Registered Number - 01105709

Joint Liquidators - Paul Flint and David Costley-Wood

David Costley-Wood and Paul Flint were appointed Joint Liquidators of the Company on 21 January 2014. The Company's principal business activity was the rental of pitches to local traders at indoor markets leased by the Company.

If you believe that that you may have an unsecured claim against the Company (i.e. that the Company owes you money), please forward details of your claim with supporting documentation to KPMG LLP, 1 St Peters Square, Manchester M2 3AE marked for the attention of Linda Robinson, or alternatively you can email at linda.robinson@kpmg.co.uk

To enable you to rank for any dividend payment, please forward details of your claim, along with any supporting documentation. The deadline for receiving claims is 30 April 2018.

In order to assist you in preparing any potential claim I can confirm that the Company's registered address was The Gerard Centre, Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market, Edge Lane, Liverpool, L13 2EJ. The Company's registration number is 01105709. The Company traded from the below schedule of premises.

Please note I can only consider claims for debt incurred prior to the date of the liquidation, being 21 January 2014. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch as per the details above.

Schedule of trading premises

Town	Trading Address
Aberdeen	Aberdeen Market, 8-10 Market Street, AB11 5NU
Accrington	Accrington Shopping Arcade, Church Street, BB5 2EH
Ayr	The Forum Centre, High Street, KA7 1PA
Belfast	Hi-Park Centre, High Street, BT1 2JZ
Bishop Auckland	73-77 Newgate Street, DL14 7ED
Blackpool	The Local Market, 35 Waterloo Road, FY4 1AD
Cannock	Cannock Shopping Centre, Market Hall Street, WS11 1EB
Chatham	The Brook, Chatham, ME4 4HX
Chesham	The Trafalgar Centre, 270 High Street, ME4 4BP
Chelmsley Wood	Chelmsley Wood Market Hall, 2-4 Greenwood Way, Birmingham, B37 5TL
Chester	154-156 Front Street, L54-156 Front Street, CH3 3AW
Clydebank	Clydebank Shopping Hall, 36 Sylvestra Way South, G81 1EA
Cornwall	16-18 Middle Street, Cornish, DH8 5UG
Cwmbran	34 The Mall, Monmouth Square, NP44 1FX
Edmonton	37-43 South Mall, Edmonton Green, N9 0TT
Erdington	Wilton Market, Birmingham, B23 6RP
Grimsby	Garibaldi Street, Grimsby, DN32 7AE
Hall Green	Units 15, 17, 19 Alcroft Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B11 3AA
Huyton	The Trading Place, 11-21 Lansdowne Way, L32 9YB
Kings Heath	41-49 High Street, Kings Heath, B14 7BH
Kirkby	Telegraph Way, Kirkby, L32 8RX
Kirkby	The Trading Place, 132 Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby, L32 8RX
Middlesbrough	5-25 Dundas Arcade, TS1 1HT
Northfield	The Trading Place, 855-857 Bristol Road South, B31 1SF
North Shields	Unit 43, Beacon Centre, 29-32 Bedford Street, North Shields, NE29 6RX
Ormskirk	Ormskirk Market Hall, Mooregate, L39 4RT
Paisley	The Paisley Centre, 23 High Street, PA1 2AW
Parkhead	1221 Gallowsing, The Forge, Parkhead, G31 4EB
Perry Bar	One Shop Shopping Centre, Walsall Road, B42 1SF
Port Talbot	Abertan Shopping Centre, Port Talbot, SA13 1PB
Glasgow	The Savoy Centre, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, G2 3DU
Stratford	70-73 The Mall, Stratford Shopping Centre, Stratford, E15 1XQ
Sutton Coldfield	66 South Parade, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1QX
Thornaby	1-2 Wrightson House, Trenchard Avenue, TS17 9EP
Walsend	8 The Forum, Walsend, NE28 8JR
Washington	81-82 The Galleries, NE38 7SD
Widlastone	35-43 High Street, Widlastone, HA3 7AE

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ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (WATLING STREET, CANNOCK) (PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURNS) ORDER 20XX

Highways England Company Limited hereby gives notice that it intends to make an Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 on the A5 Trunk Road at Cannock, in the County of Staffordshire.

The effect of the Order would be to prohibit vehicles from making a right turn from the access/egress road situated 400 metres southeast of the roundabout junction of the A5 with the A4601 at Cannock, into the A5 Watling Street, at Cannock.

A COPY of the draft Order, a plan illustrating the proposals and a statement explaining why Highways England Company Limited proposes to make the Order may be inspected during office hours at Cannock Chase Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1BG; Cannock Library, Manor Avenue, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1AA or may be seen at, or obtained by application to, Highways England Company Limited, The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street, Birmingham, B1 1RN.

Any person wishing to object to the proposed Order should send a written statement of their objection and the grounds thereof to Karen Eustace at Highways England Company Limited at the address given above. The objection should be received no later than 10 May 2018.

When submitting an objection it should be borne in mind that the substance of any objection may be communicated to other people who may be affected by it.

For further information please contact Karen Eustace on 0300 470 2978.

Karen Eustace, an Officer in Highways England Company Limited.

Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363)
Registered Office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4LZ.

10
Personals

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Staffs hit heights of aerobics excellence

SOUTH Staffs Aerobics Club are targeting national glory after hitting the heights at the West Midlands Regional Championships.

The club, which is based in Hawks Green, Cannock, produced a stunning series of displays that resulted in their best-ever haul of medals with all 28 members returning home with a gold or silver.

Gemma Chilton, who runs the club, was left staggered by the success. "This is our best year yet for sure," she said. "We have been running for 19 years. Last year we had gymnasts in the top six, but this year we went with 28 athletes and 11 partnerships and all 28 participants came back with a gold or silver medal, and eight of the partnerships won their grade."

Now South Staffs' winners will go on to represent the club and the region at national level. The club are hoping to get more people involved. They have a range of ages, with their youngest participant being three years old, and the eldest 22. Gymnasts must be born between 1997 and 2002. To arrange a trial email southstaffsaerobics@yahoo.co.uk

Oldswinford must play waiting game

OLDSWINFORM cricketers must play a waiting game after rounding off their WCB Indoor League campaign with a victory.

A final ball success against Chaddesley lifted Oldswinford to the top of the table and now they are sweating on the results from Stourbridge and Coombs Wood's final games with both sides able to overhaul the leaders.

Chaddesley posted 110-2 against Oldswinford, who were indebted to a fine knock from Tom Blunt in reply.

He ended unbeaten on 37, hitting the winning runs off the final delivery of the game. Alex Bullingham also impressed with 25 not out.

Quatt just missed out on recording their first win of the season in their final outing as they went down by seven runs to Pedmore.

John Hurdman (26 not out) helped Pedmore to 105-3.

Quatt started their reply impressively with Dan Plank (25 not out) leading the victory charge. But they lost their way in the second half of the innings and were restricted to 98-3.

400/1 for Wolves to be Premier champs

WOLVES may have only just won promotion, but they already being priced up by bookmakers for their first season back in the Premier League.

Nuno Espirito Santo's men have been quoted as 400/1 by bet365 to become champions in their first season back in the top flight – a feat no team has achieved since Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest won the title in 1977/78.

Should your sights be set a little lower, you can get 20/1 for a top-six finish – which would see European football return to Molineux for the first time since the 1980/81 season.

Odds are also priced at 7/4 for a top-half finish and 2/5 for a bottom-half position, while Wolves are as long as 5/1 to make an instant return to the Championship.

Bet365's Steve Freeth said: "There's a bullishness from Wolves fans about their return to the Premier League and you sense the club aren't returning just to make up the numbers."

Champ Denise dreams of a new golden generation

HAVING famously reached the pinnacle of her own sport by being crowned Olympic champion, Denise Lewis wants to make it easier for future generations to chase their dream.

Wolverhampton's golden girl has once more been a regular presence on our TV screens, in her familiar role as pundit for the BBC during its coverage of the Commonwealth Games.

Except this time, Lewis has more invested in the action than most.

Since 2015, she has been president of Commonwealth Games England, the organisation responsible for, among other things, ensuring English athletes have the best chance to shine on the Gold Coast.

Lewis and her team have spent time scouting training venues, sourcing sponsors, while also focusing on the many and varied logistical demands of a major championship. We meet at the official announcement of a new sponsorship deal with the energy company, npower. Such things are often, understandably, overlooked by fans.

Entwined

Yet for Lewis – and more particularly the athletes – the two are often entwined. "Funding is tight," she says. "We're grateful to have these sponsors come on board. Of course it is great for the brand. But it is also about what we can do for the athletes and how we can continue to flourish."

Lewis replaced double Olympic champion Kelly Holmes in the role after England had finished top of the medals table at Glasgow 2014.

"The challenges have been making sure we get the tone right, the right venues. The checking back and forth, right from the Youth Games, that was important, where we bring on talent, how we can support their pathway through to senior events?"

Though three decades have passed since she travelled each day from Tottenhall's Regis School to train in Birmingham – Lewis remains hugely passionate and acutely aware of her roots.

"I think I mirror the beginning of many athletes, particularly from this region," she says. "There was

SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Maher

"It's a case of: 'I'm here, I've got the vest, let's see how I acquit myself with the challenges ahead'"

a lot of travelling, facilities weren't always brilliant. But having something to focus on, to express yourself, can really turn your life around.

"It's that ripple effect, making someone else think differently or join you in that journey. I know who helped me along my way – my schoolteachers, from primary to secondary and beyond, my work colleagues. That inspires me. How can we make a difference? How can we give athletes coming through a reason to compete for their country?"

The theme of progression is one continually repeated by Lewis and from an athlete's perspective is often the very purpose of the Commonwealth Games.

Often referred to as the 'Friendly Games' – it has a well-earned reputation as a breeding ground for future stars. There is no better example than Lewis herself, who twice won Commonwealth gold before going on to be crowned champion at the Sydney Olympics in 2000. "The Commonwealth Games is so, so important. It's integral to the pathway," she says. "If you can win there, it can really hold you in good stead for the future. There are athletes going to these championships with no senior international experience."

"In my event for example, the heptathlon, Niamh Emerson has been selected for the first time, a great junior athlete and she'll be using that opportunity to see how she will handle her nerves."

"It's a case of: 'I'm here, I've got the vest, let's see how I acquit myself with the challenges ahead'."

"Being so far away from home, the jet lag, the different time zone and the pressure of being such a big

team. It's very different. Then you'll have the experienced athletes who are at their second or third and will want to go out on a high."

According to Lewis, those experienced athletes also have a role to play in helping their younger teammates move up to the next level.

"You could be next to an Olympic champion, for example. You watch how they conduct themselves."

Though the entire England team consists of nearly 600 competitors, most of Lewis's attention during the Games will naturally be drawn to the track and field events. Lewis believes a busy year, with the World Indoors having already taken place and the Europeans scheduled at the end of the summer – has perhaps added another layer of difficulty to a Championship where medals are typically expected rather than hoped for. "The ambition is big, we have a great team. But you know the friendly rivalry we have down under it's not going to be easy. They (the Australians) prepared and up for the challenge."

Deliver

"A lot of athletes will have gone into the winter with real gusto, there are three big championships, the Commonwealth Games is one they'll be citing where they can really make their mark. Some athletes aren't able to win on the global stage."

"But they can make sure they deliver in an environment which is welcoming, they'll have good weather and all things combined the optimistic ones will be looking to do really well." And four years from now it is this region which will take centre stage.

The Perry Barr school in which we meet is barely 15 minutes walk from the soon-to-be renovated Alexander Stadium, while a small, until now unremarkable corner of Smethwick will be the home of a new world-class swimming facility.

Lewis has spent the morning running a coaching session for pupils and believes there has never been a better time to begin inspiring the stars of the future.

"This is where we start sowing the seeds," she says. "Something big is happening to Birmingham – it's very exciting and children today in four years they'll be in secondary school and hopefully doing more sport. One of these kids might be on the path to being involved in sport in a serious way."



Denise Lewis celebrates winning the Gold medal in the Women's Heptathlon at the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia



Denise Lewis celebrating winning the Gold medal in the Women's Heptathlon at the Olympic Games in Sydney

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Rising star impresses for country

CANNOCK Ladies Hockey Club has saluted the achievements of one of its junior members, Lily Walker, who recently represented England under-16s.

The rising star, who has played at Cannock since she was an under-10, took part in three games against Holland at Mop HC Vught, Den Bosch.



Lily Walker playing for England

Lily was player of the match in a 3-2 defeat to the Dutch, was captain in a 3-1 reverse and then helped her side to a 1-0 victory – the first time in 10 years any junior team has beaten Holland.

“She has achieved so much at a young age, playing for her country, captaining the side and being awarded player of the match,” said the Cannock club’s Victoria Wilkes.

“Lily is a very talented hockey player but also pushes herself to always improve her performance.”

“She is a true asset to Cannock Hockey Club, and we are excited to see a promising hockey career develop.”

Club enjoy record haul in regional championships

CANNOCK-BASED South Staffs Aerobics Club are targeting national glory after hitting the heights at the West Midlands Regional Championships.

The club produced a stunning series of displays that resulted in their best-ever haul of medals with all 28 members returning home with a gold or silver.

Gemma Chilton, who runs the club in Hawks Green, said: “This is our best year yet for sure. We have been running for 19 years, and we’ve had success before – we’ve won numerous gold medals in previous years, last year we had gymnasts in the top six – but this year we went with 28 athletes and 11 partnerships and all 28 participants came back with a gold or silver medal, and eight of the partnerships won their grade.”

Now South Staffs’ winners will go on to represent the club and the region at national level.

South Staffs Aerobics Club are hoping to get more people to get involved. They have a range of ages, with their youngest participant being three, and the eldest 22.

Gymnasts must be born between 1997 and 2002. To arrange a trial, email southstaffsaerobics@yahoo.co.uk

Lovatt earns top marks for the Scholars



Action from the Scholars' 5-1 win

Chasetown 5 Belper 1

JAKE Lovatt was the star turn as Chasetown ended their Belper hoodoo. He fired home a hat-trick to steer the Scholars to their first ever home win over the Derbyshire side.

The hosts made a brilliant start to the Evo-Stik South contest and took the lead after seven minutes when Oli Hayward’s right-wing cross was headed in off the post by Nick Wel-

lecome. But the Nailers shocked their hosts with a 25th-minute equaliser, Lee Williamson netting past Curtis Pond.

The Scholars upped their game again, and deservedly regained the lead when a sumptuous through ball by Will Whieldon found Welcomme, and he chipped to the far post where Lovatt headed home. Chasetown extended their lead at

the start of the second half. Hayward swung the ball in, and Lovatt steered the ball home right footed.

Lovatt completed his ‘perfect’ hat-trick a minute later, stealing through the defence and sliding the ball home with his left foot.

Searson-Smithard was again in action saving from substitute Danny Cocks but the winger forced home the rebound to make it 5-1.

Ton up – but promotion in the balance

Burntwood 103 Trentham 20 Midlands 3 West North

BURNTWOOD ran in 15 tries, 14 of them converted, to overcome a depleted Trentham side.

The win means that they take their promotion challenge to the final round of matches but they will need to beat Utttoxeter away and then hope that Telford or Stafford slip up in their home fixtures if they are to go up.

Neil Holden led the scoring spree with five tries, followed by two each for Josh Shepherd, Ben Holt and Lloyd Dunet and one each for Alan Mapp, Tom O’Brien, George Neal and Josh Canning.

Aza Dunet landed 12 conversions from 13 attempts, with Neal and Holt adding conversions of their own.

A game Trentham side had led 6-0 courtesy of two penalty goals but the hosts scored 77 points before the visitors scored the first of their two converted tries in the final quarter.

The only down side for Sean Latham’s team was an early red card for Ross Bedworth following a brief fracas when the score was 7-6.

While the 1st XV are at Utttoxeter, the 2nd XV are due to host Longton 2nds for their final outing of the season.

SLICK SUTTON SINK PITMEN

Sutton Coldfield Town 4 Hednesford Town 1
HEDNESFORD Town endured an afternoon to forget as they were well beaten by already relegated Sutton Coldfield Town.

The home side made the perfect start when they struck in the third minute, Chekaine Steele picking out Karl Hawley, who had the simple task of tapping the ball into the unguarded net.

Although Danny Glover saw a shot saved, it was very much Sutton who were on top, and Hawley should have had a second in the fifth minute but his fierce shot was blocked.

Hednesford’s Joe Fitzpatrick saw a dipping effort tipped over before Justin Richards tested the Pitmen’s James Wren after breaking into the box. The Royals added a second goal in the 19th minute when a corner wasn’t cleared and Richards fired home past Wren. Some nice football from the visitors saw the ball find its way to Tom Thorley, who fizzed an effort just over.

Nodded

The final five minutes of the half would see two more good chances fall the way of the hosts with Richards twice being denied by Wren.

Sutton started the second half on the front foot by forcing four corners, but it was Hednesford who struck next in the 59th minute when Glover nodded the ball down to Anthony Dwyer and he confidently rifled a shot into the net.

The Pitmen’s good work was undone in the 68th minute though when a corner from Sutton picked out former Hednesford man Lee Smith and he headed home from six yards. Hednesford’s James Fitzgibbon saw a shot saved at the near post before an excellent tackle in the 81st minute denied Glover an almost certain goal.

In the fourth minute of added time, the home side netted a fourth. Although the offside flag was up for an earlier infringement, Hawley’s wonderful curling effort was allowed to stand after the referee overruled his assistant.

The Pitmen have two home games to come – Rushall Olympic today (Thursday) at 7.45pm and Mickleover Sports on Saturday (3pm).

Flags spell out sport’s values



Young players at Burntwood Rugby Club, with one of their new flags, pass the ball to Barratt Homes's sales adviser Louise Storey

AN under-12s rugby union team is building up its image, thanks to new ‘feather’ flags that were bought after a donation from Barratt Homes West Midlands.

The company, which has a development of new homes at Burntwood Rugby Club, donated £500 to the team.

Each of the flags, which will be used at all home fixtures, feature the club’s logo, plus the five Rugby Football Union core values –

teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship. Ivor Bridgman, head coach for the U12s, said: “These new flags really look the part.”

Barratt Homes West Midlands’ sales director Graydon Worthing said: “As part of our responsibility as local homebuilders, we regularly donate to community groups, including sports teams. We hope these new flags serve the young players of Burntwood Rugby Club very well.”

Hayes slip up away to basement club

Coventry Alvis 3 Heath Hayes 2

HAYES made the trip to basement club Coventry Alvis and turned in their worst performance of the season going down by the odd goal in five.

Alvis of recent have shown an improvement in form, and it showed as they overcome a lethargic Hayes side.

A James McGrady goal gave Hayes a half-time lead but a poor second half showing saw them surrender the lead when Alvis were allowed to push through the Hayes defence at will, scoring three goals.

Another McGrady goal 10 minutes from time gave Hayes a chance to retrieve something from the game but they were thwarted by some stout defending by Alvis.

Hayes’ busy week continues today (Thursday) at home to high-flying Ilkeston before entertaining Copswood on Saturday (3pm).

★ ★ ★

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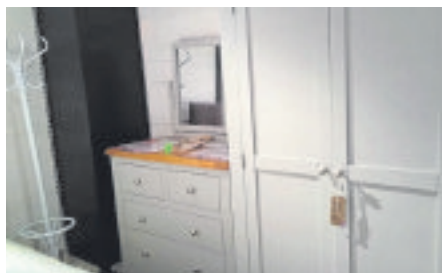
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